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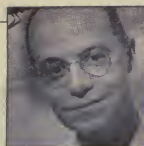
Sports Complex columnist Jim Provenzano works out with wit.  
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### Accentuate the positive!

AIDS Benefits Counselors joins forces with Positive Resources.  
page 18

### Overcoming adversity:

New Center for the Arts  
Exec. Director John Killacky  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 50 • 12 December 1996

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## Cop commission approves gay raid settlement

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco Police Commission approved Wednesday, December 4 a \$150,000 tentative settlement of claims stemming from the police raid of a 1995 private South of Market AIDS benefit.

In addition to the cash settlement, the settlement also requires reforms in police training and oversight, according to the plaintiffs' attorney.

Attorney Nanci Clarence said her seven clients, who were among 11 people arrested during the raid, went through "hell," both when they were arrested, and during hearings when the prosecution's primary tactic was to discredit them.

"These reforms mean a lot to them, and we're happy to see that some of the problems will be addressed," Clarence said, "but there remain gaping holes in review of the police misconduct, and they can't be addressed by litigation."

Police officers who raided the fundraising party at a South of Market area warehouse January 1, 1995 cited arrestees for al-



Attorney Nanci Clarence.

leged offenses ranging from resisting arrest to not having proper permits for the event. All charges were eventually dismissed.

The plaintiffs sued the city in federal court for civil rights violations and alleged

page 28 ►

## SF gays have been getting into Boy Scouts

by Dennis Conkin

A recent policy change by the San Francisco Bay Area Boy Scout Council, to allow gay youth as members and gay adults as leaders, as long as they don't engage in "public homosexual conduct or advocacy," has raised concern among gay leaders.

The policy was adopted last August, four years after the SF Bay Area United Way canceled nearly \$500,000 in annual funding for the group because it banned gay youth from joining the membership group. (Individual members, who could still donate to the scouts through United Way, raised an estimated \$75,000 for the San Francisco council and about \$345,000 for Bay Area scouting programs last year, according to a *San Francisco Examiner* report.)

The Boy Scouts were also expelled from using the premises of the San Francisco Unified School District for its programs, and lost major corporate support locally, because of its anti-gay policies.

Corporate funding by the Bank of America led to unsuccessful efforts by then-Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg and scouting activists to pull part of the city's cash from the BofA. The school district also changed banks over the flap, as did several local unions and political groups.

At B.A.R. presstime, it is unclear what action the national BSA organization will take against the local council for changing the policy against accepting gays. In the meantime, some local gay activists aren't satisfied with the change.

"It looks good, but it's a double message. What do they mean by 'as long as you don't advocate'?" Supervisor Tom Ammiano told the B.A.R. "My wrist slips. Is that advocacy? And they always talk about conduct. What do they mean by public homosexual conduct? It's back to the Anita Bryant days of staying in the closet."

Former Queer Scouts organizer John Woods said that he held much the same view. "It sounds like 'Don't ask, don't tell,'" he said.

"It's a step, a first step, however limited." ▼

## Let there be light



Jane Philomeni/Cleland

### ABOVE:

The annual holiday tree is once again illuminating the Castro. A brief interfaith ceremony was held Sunday, Dec. 1, at the Metropolitan Community Church on Eureka Street, followed by some caroling and a candlelight procession to the tree at 18th and Castro. Following the lighting of the tree, there was more caroling at Maitri Hospice and Coming Home Hospice.

This year's tree is being sponsored by the Merchants of Upper Market & Castro with generous donations from Alternative Mortgage Sources, Bank of America, Cala Foods, Headlines, Herth Realty, Superstar Video, Ultimate Yogurt & More and Una Mas. Many other businesses in the community also donated funds in support of the tree. A complete list of donors can be found on the banner displayed at the corner of 18th & Castro on the Bank of America building.

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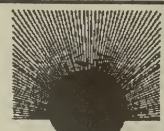
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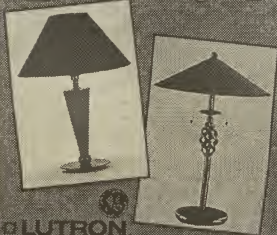
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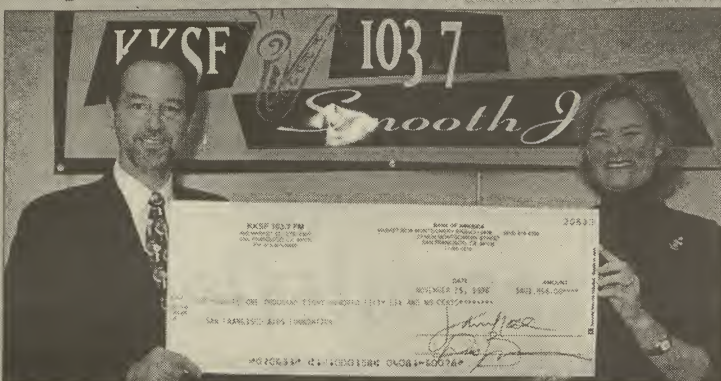
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## Superb sampler



The San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Pat Christen (right) beams as she accepts a \$401,856 check from KKSF's Dave Kendrick on Dec. 4 at the Hyatt Regency. The check represents proceeds from the KKSF Sampler for AIDS Relief 6; Sampler 7 has already earned a Billboard spot. So far, the Sampler series, which contains music donated by artists heard on KKSF, has raised more than \$1.7 million for the SFAF.

## HRC to release queer youth findings tonight

by Jesse Costello-Good

After more than a year of research, public meetings, and hearings, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission is expected to approve a final draft of its Findings and Recommendations on LGBTQ [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning] Youth at its meeting tonight (Thursday, December 12). Community members expect the document to become a citywide blueprint for creating the services to meet the needs of queer youth.

The 27-page document, which in its most recent draft includes

96 findings and 116 recommendations, was produced after the Human Rights and Youth Commissions' landmark hearing on LGBTQ youth in September. That hearing included testimony from over 30 youth, as well as representatives from most agencies and organizations in the city that serve queer youth.

Recommendations expected to be approved tonight include mandating the Department of Human Services to ensure that group homes are sensitive to the needs of LGBTQ youth; reinforcing that a teacher's obligation to teach students includes the responsibility to make classrooms and schools a safe place for all students, including LGBTQ students; and ensuring no city funds are spent on treatments or programs using Gender Identity Disorder to "treat" actual or perceived homosexuality or transgenderism.

The hearing and preliminary recommendations have already spawned a sweeping San Francisco School Board resolution introduced by Commissioner Angie Fa in October. That resolution, which, among other things, mandated enforcement of the SFUSD anti-slur policy and sensitivity trainings for teachers, passed

unanimously.

Brian Cheu, staff of the Human Rights Commission, told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "It is really exciting that these findings and recommendations have acted as a catalyst for a similar resolution by the school board, and also an upcoming resolution by the Board of Supervisors."

Supervisors Tom Ammann and Leslie Katz plan a follow-up hearing for service providers, with the goal of securing more funding for LGBTQ youth services.

A comprehensive document that includes summaries of the testimony is expected to be printed by February 1997 and will be distributed to city agencies, schools, and service providers as a queer youth reference. The Human Rights Commission hopes to distribute the document to the LIFE Lobby, the queer lobbying group in Sacramento, in order to develop a statewide youth agenda.

In addition, Cheu said, "The HRC plans to present this document during the public hearing on the annual Children Services Plan to make sure that the plan properly includes the needs of queer youth in its funding priorities." ▼

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# Bay Area programmer makes game gay

by Dennis Conkin

A renegade computer programmer at the East Bay software firm Maxis inserted an unexpected feature into the company's new flight simulation game that got him fired: muscular bikini-clad men who periodically appear and kiss each other.

According to Maxis spokesman Patrick Beuchner, the company did not know about the gay images in its SimCopter game before it released approximately 80,000 copies of the software November 20.

The fired programmer, 33-year-old Jacques Servin, told the *Bay Area Reporter* the unautho-

ORIZED programming was "a new kind of activism" done in the "spirit of rebelliousness" and the kind of cutting-edge creativity that is characteristic of software artists.

Servin called the subversion "child's play," and said there was no way for software companies to prevent it.

Players who complete various levels of difficulty in SimCopter are supposed to be rewarded with animated fireworks and a brass band. According to Beuchner, that is what happens in the first nine levels, but in the tenth and final level, the band is occasionally replaced by men celebrating in swimming trunks.

Servin told the *Bay Area Re-*

porter he was fired four days after a Maxis official discovered the images while playing the game and said there "could be a problem" with the gay image.

"These things added to games are called 'Easter eggs,' and it's popular among code writers in the software industry," Beuchner said. "We have a policy not to include unauthorized things, and that's why he was terminated."

The "Easter eggs" the Walnut Creek company authorized for SimCopter included the rare appearance of the Loch Ness Monster and a superhero flying through the air, Beuchner said.

Servin said he was instructed to create several animated "bim-bos" for the higher levels of the

SimCopter. After he did that, he then included several "studs" to make the point that mass-market homosexual imagery is virtually nonexistent.

"I was very proud," he said.

While the unauthorized gay figures primarily appear when players complete the highest levels, Servin said he also programmed the game to release additional scantily clad men on special occasions, such as Friday the 13th and his birthday.

Maxis said it will offer a "patch" that will eliminate the homoerotic figures from the program. ▼



Jacques Servin

## Shanti to hold Latin dance party, volunteer training in Spanish

by Cynthia Laird

Shanti will have a dance night tonight (Thursday, December 12) at El Rio to benefit its direct service programs, and will follow up its outreach to the community with training in Spanish for volunteers this Saturday and Sunday, December 14-15.

Tonight's dance party gets started at 9 p.m. House and Latin music will be provided by DJ Clay, said Victor Gaitan, Latino program coordinator. The entire \$5

cover charge will go to Shanti.

Regarding this weekend's Spanish volunteer training sessions, Gaitan said the agency is always looking for more people to volunteer. Right now there are about 80 volunteers in the program.

"We have trainings about every three months in Spanish," Gaitan told the *B.A.R.* "Anyone who speaks Spanish and wants to volunteer is welcome."

The volunteers are needed to provide culturally appropriate emotional support and practical assistance to Latinos with

HIV/AIDS.

The training sessions will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Gaitan added. ▼

The dance party will be held at El Rio, 3158 Mission Street. For more information, call (415) 282-3325. The Spanish volunteer trainings will be held at Shanti's office, 1546 Market Street. Call Victor Gaitan at (415) 864-2273 to apply in advance or for more information.

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# Sex club restrictions continued by Cahill

by Liz Highleyman

**A**t a hearing last Thursday, December 5, Judge William Cahill continued the terms of a temporary restraining order against the Power Exchange Main Station at 74 Otis Street, restricting occupancy of the sex club to 49 patrons on one floor of the 30,000-square foot building. The restrictions were instituted November 15th after Deputy City Attorney Jeanine Marie-Victoire sought the restraining order, claiming that the building contained numerous safety violations and was a "disaster waiting to happen."

Since the preliminary hearing, club operator Mike Powers and building owner Jimmy Jen have ameliorated the most pressing safety violations. Jen stated that "dramatic improvements" have been made to three floors of the club. Powers provided photographs showing the installation of a new door, new "panic bars" on existing doors, and exit lights in each room. Powers says the alterations cost \$3,000. Marie-Victoire stated that while some concerns remain, they were "not imminent life safety issues." She noted that the major fire safety violations had been remedied, and she would not be opposed to expanding the club's operations.

The city is now demanding that the club go through the regular Fire Department and Department of Building Inspection permit process required for businesses operating in the city. Marie-Victoire claims that the club never completed this process, and should never have been operating without full city approval. According to Powers and Jen, the permit process has been underway for some time, and has been held up by city officials. Jen claimed that he had heard nothing from officials for five months

the difficulties and delays encountered by Powers stem from problems city officials had with the previous tenant of the building, Deno Fessler, who operated the Playground sex club, including lack of cooperation with officials attempting to inspect the premises. Powers took over the space in May 1996.

Fire Captain Edward DeCossio — who initiated the inspections that led to the November 15th hearing, and who allegedly made homophobic remarks and jokes about the activities that took place

## Building owner Jimmy Jen says dramatic improvements have been made to Power Exchange club.

prior to the recent events involving the club. He stated that the Fire Department is aware that the building is "ready for reinspection," and he hopes that this will occur as soon as possible. Powers pointed out the inconsistencies the club has dealt with, noting that over the course of five inspections from January 1996 to the present, the occupancy rating of the building has been changed from A2 (permitting 999 occupants) to B2 (permitting 49 occupants).

City officials have accused the club operators of being "greedy" and unconcerned with public safety. Powers counters that his club has a high level of cleanliness, and photos show safer sex posters and educational materials. Jen said that if anyone could find an establishment with more safety exit lights per square foot, they could "have my building for free." Powers and Jen hope that public pressure will encourage the city to move quickly to complete the process and allow full operation of the club. Powers stated that he hoped city officials would be willing to make the same effort to allow the club to reopen as they were to shut it down. In the meantime, the city and the club operators are in negotiations regarding interim occupancy limits. Powers claimed that since late November, he has sustained an estimated \$2,000 per week in lost business.

It appears likely that some of

at the club — was not present in court on December 5th, and sources say he has been removed from the case.

Powers and Jen continue to assert that the actions against the Power Exchange represent selective enforcement of the gay sex club following press attention related to proposed legislation governing local sex clubs and Mayor Willie Brown's subsequent withdrawal of his support for such legislation. They note that their other sex club, the Power Exchange Substation on Harrison Street, is in similar condition and is operated with a higher occupancy limit, even though it is considerably smaller. Powers and Jen noted that the Substation primarily caters to heterosexual, bisexual, and transgendered patrons, while the Main Station caters primarily to gay men. ▼

Tom Ammiano, the sponsor of the withdrawn proposed sex club legislation, will conduct a meeting of the Government Efficiency and Labor Committee today at 5:30 p.m. at Everett Middle School, located at 450 Church Street. Although the scheduled topic of the meeting is AIDS services, Ammiano has stated that he sees the meeting as an opportunity for community members to voice their concerns regarding sex club regulations.

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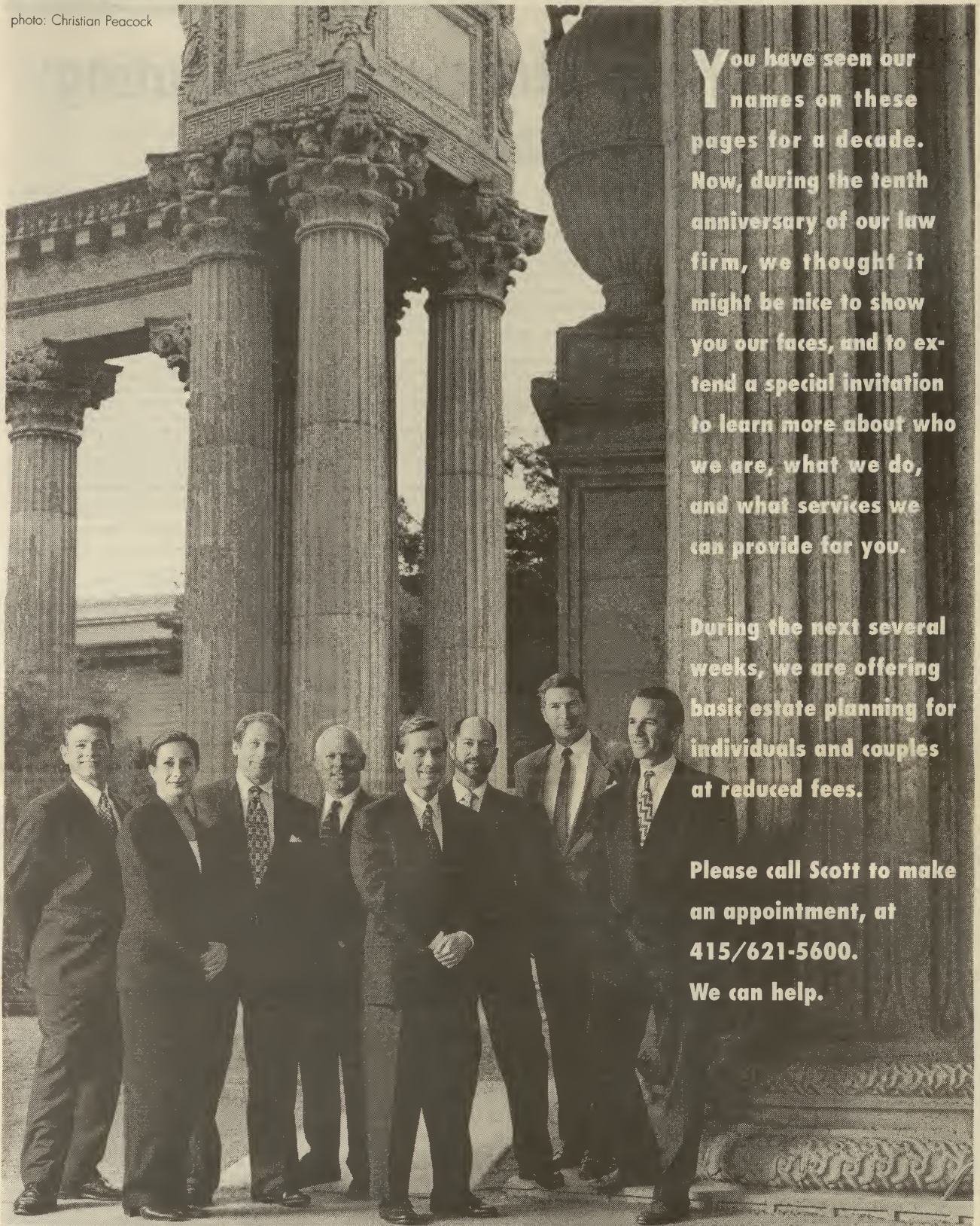
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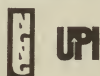
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## OPEN FORUM

From Stonewall to Scouting:  
Be prepared

## Editorial

Since we'll never know exactly what caused that first angry drag queen at the Stonewall Inn to rip a parking meter out of the concrete and take off running directly at a homophobic cop's face, it's always chancy to speculate whether something is or isn't "in the spirit of Stonewall." Even so, speculating is so much fun, whether alone or with friends, that it's nearly irresistible.

For instance, was it in the worldview of those angry dykes and fags that night to change America so much the military would drop its ban on gay servicemembers? Um, no. Probably not. In those days, when the Vietnam War was a clear and present danger to so many young men, the ban was arguably the best thing about being gay. Those advantages were numerous and varied: it was perhaps the only real reason to come out in those days; it kept a good many smart young men from being wasted as cannon fodder in a worthless war; and there was the humor factor of heterosexuals feigning being gay to avoid conscription. Many more talked about pretending to be queer at the draft board than ever went through with it, naturally, but the thought of even one straight guy having to be careful to mask his true sexuality is sure to put a smile on the face of gay people who have to do it all the time.

If the right to join the Marines Corps was not a priority for the earliest activists, gay marriage was probably the kind of thing they would have wanted (but perhaps couldn't imagine demanding). Of course, you remember what Mama said about being careful about what you wish for. If the decision in Hawaii holds up, and if the state of California recognizes same-sex unions as legal, we suspect a number of early enthusiasts will be screaming in psychic pain the first time they go through a divorce. This state's liberal community property laws should not be underestimated; be careful about giving away half your food to get the other half cooked. (Excuse the cynicism,

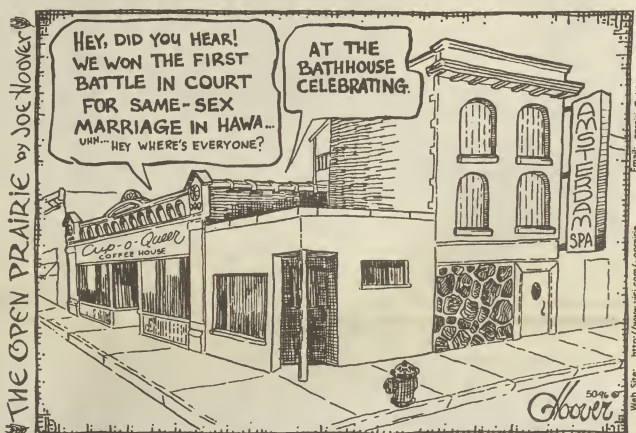
which appears to be a naturally occurring antibody to all that holiday cheer out there at the moment.)

Then there's the Boy Scouts. Now it's possible for gay people to devote their time to that organization, as long as they don't make a big deal about being gay. Like the other two controversies, it doesn't really seem as though this is going to change most of our friends' lives – and like whatever limited "gains" we've made on the military front, it's insultingly based on "don't ask, don't tell" – but its value may be in its unspoken admission that gays are like everyone else. We are parents and guardians; we aren't child molesters; we like to get involved in projects that have the potential to make tomorrow a better day. It is also an important win because of what it says about our ability to effect change. The policy was altered because of steady pressure (the loss of United Way funding because of public outrage),

and not because of a riot. In that way it couldn't be further from the spirit of Stonewall, but we suspect it is pleasing a lot of the people who rioted there that night – even if those queens wouldn't have been caught dead spending the day in

hiking boots, let alone the night a pup tent. (Although, God knows, it would have added a whole new meaning to the phrase "Camp Counselor," and they might have brought a much-needed design touch to those dreary merit badges.)

Gradually the past furor and its "Gays vs. Scouts" headlines will disappear into the miasma of recent history, and then ancient history, and future generations will never even know there was a problem with gay scouts joining or gay scout leaders volunteering. That thought is enough to make us cheerful, brave, and reverent as a Boy Scout; now, if only we could remember what the other required attributes were... ▼

Looking at a Chrysler?  
Kick more than the tires!

by Rand Knox

The issues over Chrysler Motor Company refusing to acknowledge "sexual orientation" in its diversity programs should come as no big surprise. After all, Chrysler Motors was recently dinged by the State of California for reselling (laundering) "lemons" to second buyers without disclosing the prior use, condition, and potential safety problems of hundreds of its "good-faith repurchases." It did so to California consumers – our friends and families, after it had been caught and dinged for the same practices previously in Pennsylvania and New York and God-knows-where-else.

Chrysler merely operates within an industry which, by conservative appraisals, robs America's family values of tens of billions of dollars every year through the fraud, sham, and abuse of unfair, manipulative, and fraudulent sales and service practices. No other industry, not even the legal profession, shares the lowly level of public repute that new and used car dealers and manufacturers do in our society, yet we would deign to expect better of Chrysler, other manufacturers or dealers regarding its treatment of our gay brothers and sisters inside the industry or in the general marketplace? Duuh?

We expected the military, a "special place" where young civilian adults are sado-masochised into professional killers, to treat us and our fellows and sisters better

too, remember?

While it is good to work for equality in every business and social environment, the exploitative practices of businesses should be held up to ridicule and be made to evolve to an acceptable socially responsible and responsive level.

A study of auto consumer practices showed that women and minorities routinely paid more for car purchases and service than do white males, with black females and black males doing worse than white females. It was determined that the pricing differences were due to industry and business biases rather than because of individual consumer skills.

As a minimum, along with equality in the workplace we should be demanding that businesses behave fairly and responsibly in the marketplace as well, where everyone is affected by unscrupulous practices. The billions of dollars siphoned from our friends and families every year by shady practices in the auto industry could be helping to fund AIDS and other needy and worthy social and environmental charities. Instead, these moneys fuel the greed and avarice of one of the most socially irresponsible industries known to humankind. Folks might consider whether we all, including the industry and our overall economy and environment, would benefit from the implementation of a "Fair Car Sales and

Service Practices Act" to comprehensively protect consumers, honest industry practitioners, and our local, state and national economies from the fraud, waste and abuse in this industry. Does anyone have a problem with fairness?

But, like "they" say, "Whatever traffic allows": As long as we continue buying and eating the slop served by the auto industry, we'll be for dinner. For more free information on lemon-proofing the Great American Car Deal, share "CARveat Emptor: Tricks of the Great American Car Deal" with friends

and family. It's an Internet website at <http://www.well.com/user/kr2>, or search for CARveat Emptor. It contains "ranty" but free food for thought for those who think equality in the automobile workplace is the last bastion of repairing the Great American Car Deal. Until Chrysler Motors and its industry fellows expand its definition of equality, avoid buying one, or at the very least discover several new dingy deal factors to help you avoid paying too much for another Chrysler or other car deal or lease mistake. Repairing the Great American Car Deal is a team sport.

Cheers and happy motoring, wheeling and dealing. Virtually and really.

For more on the situation for gay workers at Chrysler, see page 22.

## Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Eating our own

Please don't believe that all transsexually-identified people oppose the abolition of GID (Gender-Identity Disorder) from the DSM-IV. I support the removal of GID from the list of psychiatric illnesses, just as homosexuality was removed back in 1972.

My transsexuality is not a disability. My transsexuality is not a "mental impairment" from which I may derive protection under the law. I believe that being transsexual is a medical condition, not a psychological one. Because it is a medical condition, I do deserve protection under the law, same as people with other physical challenges. I want protection from discrimination in employment and housing same as other groups. That's a human need, not a pathologically-based one.

The truth is that GID is wielded unmercifully against queer and questioning youth because they are gender transgressors, i.e. sissy boys and tomboys, regardless of whether they are gay, lesbian, bisexual, heterosexual, or transgendered. There are numerous, documented testimonies from people who were incarcerated and subjected to drug "treatments" and aversion "therapy" to rid them of their anti-social tendencies. This is institutionalized hate-violence at its worst.

Attacking NCLR and IGLHRC for trying to eliminate this threat is not the way to further our cause. Lobbying for, and achieving a medical diagnosis of transsexuality will meet the needs of Portland transsexuals without endangering the freedom of others.

Why is it, in every social revolution, that the leaders begin to eat their own? Let's end this schism and work to build alliances. If we devour our allies, who will be left to fight for us?

Marcus de Maria Arana  
Oakland, CA



**Mailstrom**

## The Continental perspective

It has been weeks since I read a remark [regarding] what tourists would think about the homeless in the Castro Streets. It has stuck to my head, so I better write about it.

I came to this town as a European tourist and didn't notice - in particular - the problem of the Castro, because everywhere I went in San Francisco there was an abundance of homeless people as I had never seen before in a developed country.

My American lover came over for a trip to Europe and, yes, saw homeless people. But in the six weeks we traveled we encountered, in his words: as many homeless people as in San Francisco in a day. Tourists are appalled when they see all these homeless people in the Castro, because what they see are Americans in horrible situations with an American society as a whole not reaching out.

You won't hear me say Europe is perfect and America is not, but reality tells that the lack of space in Europe forces solutions upon them. If you turn your head in Europe, you would still see the problem. Moving the homeless out of Castro Street only means moving, it is not solving the problem. Don't look away because you can, but force a policy on this town and country that is good for all.

Andrew Van Buren  
San Francisco

[Editor's note: Thanks. It would be great if everyone who complained about the situation was as eager to help change it.]

## Sex policing

Kudos to Rene Beauchamp for his insightful guest opinion about the recent sex club legislation debacle and the ridiculous measures being taken by Mitch Katz of the DPH AIDS Office and those of the Coalition for Healthy Sex who support Mr. Katz' positions.

The gay men of San Francisco should be outraged and insulted that they are being told that only if their sex is monitored can it be safe. It is clear to any thinking person that Mr. Katz and those who support him are constructing their "guidelines" for sex clubs on a foundation of prudishness, sex-negative thinking, political expediency and, in some cases, self-serving monetary concerns.

It is time that everyone realizes that you cannot bully people into safer sex practices. Only through diligent and balanced education can safer sex practices be instilled in the sexually-active gay men of this city. Personal responsibility, not governmental sex policing, must become the battle cry of the safer sex education movement if it is to remain successful.

I hope those gay men who value their sexual freedom resist the efforts of the DPH and the Coalition for Healthy Sex to strangle their erotic freedoms. Bathhouses and "stand-up" sex clubs can all co-exist, and they can all be safe. All it takes is a reasonable city policy, vigilant education efforts, and a willingness for all concerned to engage in discussions based on facts and reality, not emotion and hysteria.

Race Bannon  
San Francisco

## Greed grab

Letters fill your pages on the pros and cons of kitty litter as political protest. The AIDS Foundation buys full page ads in local papers condemning violence. People should be putting their time, money and energy to better use in the fight against AIDS.

We abhor the "ACT UP/SF/PETA" kitty litter incident as much as anyone. It undermines the credibility and victories of the real ACT UP chapters across the country.

However, we are as sickened by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's successful lobbying of Nancy Pelosi to divert \$50 million from the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) to "CARE" agencies.

The results of AIDS Foundation's lobbyists Paul DiDonato and Chris Johnson and CARE Coalition's Ernest Hopkins' greed grab are being felt now by PWAs in the heartland. According to the *Kansas City Star*, only 132 lucky Missourians will get protease inhibitors through an ADAP lottery. Apparently, riverboat casinos are no longer the only gambling outlets along the Mississippi. Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, South Carolina, Vermont and Washington DC have severe ADAP restrictions or waiting lists.

Not only have protease inhibitors given us new hope, they've altered the political landscape of the AIDS community, as access to treatment options becomes a major priority.

It's time for the needs of PWAs to supplant those of well-connected careerists in self-perpetuating AIDS bureaucracies. DiDonato, et. al. should be lobbying for more service money and an end to drug company price-gouging instead of raiding ADAP. "Your old road is rapidly aging. Please get out of the new one if you can't lend a hand. For the times they are a changin'."

John Iversen  
ACT UP/East Bay  
Oakland, CA

## Flat earth fairy-cakes

Oh great!

After watching our friends drop dead in front of us over the past horrifying 15 years, we are now seeing our friends virtually snatched from the jaws of death by the new HIV treatments, obits dropping off, hospital beds empty, everyone back to the gym, wasted bodies recovered and powerful again - but some silly fairy-cakes are screaming it is all a plot to destroy the world and poison gay men and women.

My suggestion for these miscreants, including the hapless Dr. Abrams, is a lifetime membership in the Flat Earth Society!

Gordon Salter  
San Francisco

[Editor's note: The epidemic is not over yet. Nevertheless, your point is well-taken.]

## The price of admission

In a recent letter to the editor, SF Supervisor Tom Ammiano recounted some exciting prospects for the turn of the century when district elections will take effect, such as actual neighborhood candidates you can actually see and talk to, and drastically reduced campaign costs (under \$5,000 for a candidate who has real grassroots support!)

I want to add that it will also make truly independent candidates much more viable. As it is now, it's extremely rare for great candidates like Ammiano to win...and having won, to stay honest. The price of admission, \$200,000 + for a city-wide election, can be obtained only from the "soft money" from the Democratic (or Republican) Party apparatus, which is financed and controlled by the rich. That's why they've always gone to any extremes to retain at-large elections.

The time is long past when the 170-year-old Party provided any countervailing populist power against the corporatist one percent who rule us. It's been dead for at least 20 years. As more and more millions continue to wake up and smell the corpse, the results could be millennial.

Larry Kisinger  
San Francisco

## Byte back

[The following was sent to "Virtual Queer" columnist Terry Beswick:]

Enjoyed your "Giga-byte me!" article [November 28] greatly! Your humor is refreshing, tired as I am of virtual know-it-alls who get ultra-serious about their computer fetishes. As a certified queer computer geek (recent convert, I might add), I confess I too occasionally take myself too seriously.

Nice to be able to laugh at myself for a change, thanks to your self-effacing, humorous piece, in which I see myself as I was only about two years ago. Cheers! And I look forward to future columns!

Mark Mardon  
San Francisco

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### Poetic tribute

I'm writing to thank Beth Elliott for her column on the opera *Harvey Milk*, which, to my mind, captured the multi-layered significance of this production in a way that Paul Thomason's mean-spirited review missed completely. Whether the music suited one's taste or not, there was no denying the electric feeling in the air at each performance, as both audience members and cast members experienced the "emotional wallop" that Ms. Elliott writes about.

I'll admit I'm biased. I was fortunate enough to be a supernumerary in the opera, playing a Stonewall riot cop in Act I and a gay-bashing victim in Act II. Throughout the rehearsal period and performance run, there was an unusually intimate level of interaction between principals, chorus, supers and creative staff - which I believe stemmed from the fact that the events portrayed onstage had touched so many of our lives directly.

You know you've seen a work of art when you wake up the next day thinking about it, processing it and re-experiencing images of it. Many of my friends have said that this was their reaction after seeing *Harvey Milk: The Opera*. Stewart Wallace and Michael Korie, the composer and librettist, have given us a poetic and forthright tribute to Harvey Milk and his contemporaries, and a way to remember the transformative decade they made happen.

Albert Malkin  
San Francisco

### Sour milk

Last Tuesday evening, I attended the production of the *Harvey Milk* opera.

With that embarrassment still ringing in my ears, I was astonished to read Elliott Tucker's piece on the editorial page of the *B.A.R.*

Your critic's (Paul Thomason) review was right on the money except that he was too kind.

My initial intention after the debacle was to stand up and shout, "Kill the librettist!" I have since modified that to a public tar and feathering.

I can only conclude that his muse must have been Jesse Helms. I felt as if I were watching the Christian Coalition's version of the Gay Day parade.

It is comforting to know that this is *not* deathless prose and will soon be mercifully forgotten, never to resurface. This piece of poetic license run amok is not worthy of Harvey or the gay community.

Fernando J. Feliciano  
Brisbane, CA

### Harvey's back

On November 27, several hundred persons commemorated the life of Harvey Milk, and George Moscone. It was the largest crowd I have seen in the 18 years since Supervisor Milk and Mayor Moscone were slain by Dan White. Many of us who were friends of Harvey listened to speakers talk of Harvey and his commitment to the Castro District and San Francisco, and most of all, his work to help minorities, the handicapped, gays and straights, and young and old. In attendance were Stewart Wallace, who composed the *Harvey Milk* opera, and Michael Korie, who did the libretto.

Some of my words to those attending were to thank the gay community for their support while I was the Teamster official directing the boycott of Coors Beer in California. Harvey led the way with his friend Wayne Friday and gay activist Howard Wallace. They, along with countless others, removed Coors from all gay-owned businesses within two weeks. This support by gay owners not only stunned Coors, but it also showed the boycott Field Director Andy Cirke, the Teamster union, and myself the power of the gay community. The only request Harvey Milk ever made of me was to dispatch open gays into Teamster union driving jobs.

Also present at the memorial was the principal of the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy (formerly the Douglass School, which I attended sixty years ago).

To those of you who did not see the *Harvey Milk* opera, we can only hope it returns to San Francisco when the War Memorial Opera House reopens. The opera was a work of art and love.

Before Harvey's business partner and lover Scott Smith died, he placed Harvey's ashes under a plaque in front of Harvey's home and business at 575 Castro Street. Going into my sixty-fifth year on Castro Street with 40 of those married to a great lady, I thank Harvey every day for making the Castro what it is today.

We don't have Harvey Milk to carry on his dreams of a better city for all, but we do have a young gay supervisor, Tom Ammiano, who reminds me of Harvey. He is not afraid of speaking out for what is best for all of us who live in the greatest city in the United States, San Francisco. To carry on, he will need the support of all of us, gay or straight.

Please remember San Francisco belongs to all of us, no matter what color you are or what your sexual orientation is.

Allan Baird  
San Francisco

### Where there's smoke ...

The two articles in the December 5 issue "Tobacco \$\$\$" by Dennis Conkin and "Revealed: the smoking habits of people who watch drag pageants" by Rene M. Astudillo have shown your paper has sunk to new low levels. This biased anti-smoking agenda being supported by you seems hypocritical and almost unbearable. Your paper purports liberalism, freedom of choice and civil rights ...except on the smoking issue.

The main item that must be mentioned is that both Conkin and Astudillo are extreme anti-smokers. This does not make for balanced or fair reporting. You interview a paid servant of Proposition 99 and a representative from the tobacco company, but where are there any quotes from activists on the pro-choice side of smoking representing 50 million smokers? Nowhere! Why, because statements they might make will expose some of the untruths spewed out by the anti-smokers and they want to censor our side of this issue. Astudillo, if not also Conkin, not only are paid for specifically writing such biased and conceptually untrue stories, but worst of all, are being paid on the backs of smokers forced to fund Proposition 99 to be used against them.

The most inane idea is sponsorship by tobacco companies of any adult event will create smokers. Most, if not all smokers, don't start because of advertising. Let's forget that "Bud Light," among many other alcohol companies, sponsor many gay events and advertise very heavily in most gay publications. Does this mean that it will make more gays and lesbians drink because of this sponsorship? I think not. Trying to censor advertising by the tobacco companies is no worse than Helms trying to censor the gay community. Any form of censorship chips away at our liberties to make choices, good or bad. Moralizing against smoking is no better than moralizing against gay lifestyles, drinking, eating, lack of exercise, etc.

Under the guise of "health" - fascism now disguises itself in white coats. Politically Correct has now become a tool of control against any opposition. To me, PC now means "Psychological Control." The one question the public should ask itself is where do these "studies, surveys and reports" come from? I can guarantee that it is not from any neutral source. The anti-smoking coalitions are no better in self-serving agendas than the tobacco companies. What makes them worse is that the money used against smoking comes from smokers themselves. The tobacco companies at least earn their money. To dispel any attacks to me, I am not working for, have never worked for, nor do I get a salary or any money from any tobacco company. My only interest is in the choice to smoke.

Proposition 99, the tobacco tax initiative was passed by the majority. This is a fact that is used against smokers and smoking repeatedly. Let us not forget that Prop 187, and most recently, Prop 209 were also passed by the majority. After all, the majority's will should always be followed. The majority should never be used to work against any minority for any reason. Then if a bill was passed, by the majority, to tax abortions so that it could fund "education" to stop abortions would make it right ...since it was the majority's will. It now seems that the oppressed have become the oppressors.

In Astudillo's article, the ETS (secondhand smoke) statement is not based on fact. There is no definitive proof of the 50,000 die of secondhand smoke figure. Even the EPA will not use it in any definitive manner. Only the California Dept. of Health Services and all its various anti-smoking Prop 99 funded coalitions dare state that figure as fact. I personally challenge anyone to a public debate on this issue and ask them to give the public definitive proof of such a misleading statement. I want to see that on a death certificate. I dare say none of these people have the guts to debate that in a public forum!

What is even more morally reprehensible is that while the federal and state government is cutting back on vital health and assistance services to people in need, Prop 99 sees fit to fund such nonsense. All this money in paid salary to Astudillo and APITEN to conduct "surveys" of drag pageants certainly takes the cake. The gay community is always in need of AIDS services. We can't get enough money from the government, so we must depend on public support. All these little fascists in white coats running around with one hand out to collect the money and the other out to slap the public into submission is more than one can stand. Who needs to be "educated" on the fact that smoking can cause health problems? Nobody, but our "health" educators, with Prop 99 funds, will make sure that we obey their directives, amid lies, coercion and hate campaigns.

I smoke. I choose to smoke and my health belongs to me ...not to the state! I guarantee that anti-smokers will harp on the secondhand smoke killing them facade and ignore my challenge to them to prove it.

Raymond Sasso  
President, FORCES  
San Francisco

[The most telling line of this letter is "I want to see (ETS) on a death certificate." If you can't see your own contradictions, you're smoking more than tobacco.]



## POLITICS

# A new, kinder Congress?

by Wayne Friday

Mississippi Republican Senator **Trent Lott**, a diehard conservative, is now firmly entrenched as senate majority leader in the new 105th Congress, replacing his illustrious predecessor, **Bob Dole**. "Where's the outrage?" **Dole**. Lott, younger than the legendary deal-making Dole by nearly 20 years, is known in D.C. as an affable schmoozer who enchants just about everyone — Republicans and Democrats alike.

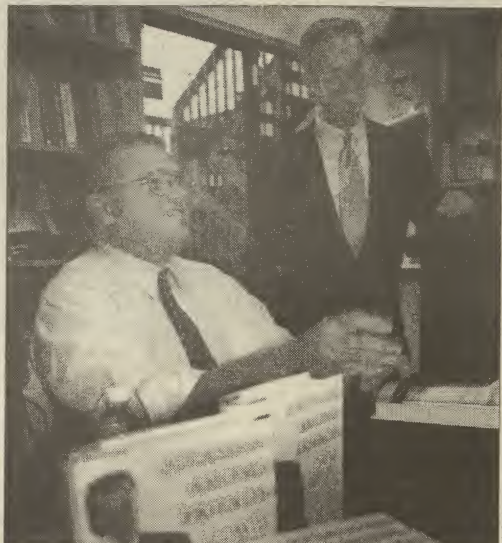
On the other hand, the highly intelligent, well-educated Lott, thought to have presidential ambitions himself, also has a reputation on Capitol Hill as a hard-nosed overachiever with a demonstrated will to dominate. In either case, the Southern senator is now the most powerful Republican in Washington, and the most dominant figure in the Republican Party, even eclipsing the better-known **Newt Gingrich**.

Some Washington watchers already sense a bit of a rivalry between the two over party policy, or even worse, daily headlines coming from Congress. Since the Republicans picked up two more senate members in last month's election, Lott and Co. are in a very good position to make things even more uncomfortable for President Clinton than last time out.

However, Trent Lott read the signals from voters that they will not stand for more Republican tricks like the shutting down of the national government (which clearly worked in Clinton's re-election favor). Since the election (where Democrats picked up a net gain of ten House seats), both Lott and Gingrich have frequently expressed their desire for a cooperative relationship with the **Bill Clinton** White House.

Just as often, unfortunately, the new senate majority leader has dropped hints that he might be looking forward to a fight with the president. The senator warned last week that "if the president returns to the way he acted in the first two years of his first term of bigger government, takeover of health care, a tax increase — then we'll be prepared to fight." Lott was sending a message that he doesn't want "my Senate" to appear unwilling to work with Clinton, but he was also saying that he had no intention of permitting the president to stand in the way of the Republican agenda.

After the tough Mississippi saw a few months before the November election that the GOP was losing a war of words with Clinton and was thought by voters to be too partisan, he helped break a legislative logjam, which led to the enactment of a minimum-wage increase, a welfare-reform bill, some modest tax breaks for small businesses, a national parks expansion bill, and legislation helping workers keep health insurance. For this, Senator Lott took heavy flak from the more conservative, right-wing members of his party, but the fact that the Republicans now enjoy a 55-45 GOP majority in the Senate while keeping House losses to a minimum seems to bolster the contention that Lott's pre-election cooperation with the White House worked well for his party.



Goin' to the chapel: David Mixner (seated) with hubby-to-be Patrick Marston at A Different Light book signing this summer.

Even with his ten-vote majority, Lott knows that because of the filibuster, it takes 60 votes to do his work, so some compromise is inevitable. In the Gingrich-led House of Representatives, Republicans, faced with ten more Demos in that body, are talking compromise as well.

A "kinder, gentler" new GOP-controlled Congress?

We'll have to

wait and see. Then again, Election 2000 is currently wide open, with no incumbent on the ticket. Perhaps Lott, Gingrich *et al.* might just be willing to be a bit more chummy with the White House in hopes of enhancing their chances of living there four years hence.

## Politics and people

Also in D.C.: N.Y. Senator **Alfonse D'Amato**, who had been making partisan hay most of last year as chair of the Whitewater hearings, suddenly announced that there would be no more of them, despite previous warnings he would take them up again in the 105th Congress. Could the senator's change of heart have something to do with the fact that he is up for re-election in 1998 and his approval ratings are at an all-time low in his home state? Or maybe that President Clinton carried N.Y. by upward of a million votes last November?

Both the *SF Examiner* and the *San Jose Mercury News* editorialized in favor of gay marriages last week. Bravo!

Some Sacto insiders believe that Assembly Speaker **Cruz Bustamante's** appointment of **Sheila Kuehl** as Speaker Pro Tem (instead of having a floor vote) means that Kuehl now serves at Bustamante's pleasure and could be on a very short leash.

Class act: Massachusetts Gov. **William Weld** (often called America's most pro-gay governor) lost a race to incumbent U.S. Senator **John Kerry** last month, but unlike most other politicians (particularly the losing ones), he didn't fire everyone on his campaign staff the day after his losing effort. Instead, he gave over 100 of them a month's extra pay. "Well, Christmas is almost here," explained Weld.

Compare these figures! The new Assembly sworn in last week in Sacramento has 17 women and 18 minorities among its 43 Democratic members, while the Republicans count only two minorities and three women among their 37 members.

Instant karma: **Yoko Ono** gave \$1 million last week to the N.Y. Gay Men's Health Crisis in recognition of World AIDS Day. Meanwhile, AIDS crusader **Elizabeth Taylor** spoke to the U.N. General Assembly, demanding "a global revolution in health care" to respond to the pandemic. Speaking in another part of New York City at the west side Riverside Church at an AIDS rally with **Whoopi Goldberg** and **Elton John**, famed opera star **Jessye Norman** took on churches, particularly black churches, for their noticeable "reluctance" to do more, given how uncomfortable churches can be with the gays and drug users hardest hit by the disease. "We haven't addressed it properly," Norman said. "We've managed to make it a disease that you shouldn't talk about. It's so self-defeating to treat it this way that it's hardly bearable to say...I cry every time I myself talk about it."

I haven't received my invite yet, but the *LA Times* reports that **David Mixner**, 50, still thought to be President Clinton's best openly gay bud, will "marry" artist **Patrick Marston**, 30, soon in an LA church. Mixner helped raise millions for Clinton's 1992 run, though the two later had a falling out and a kiss-and-make-up session (over Don't Ask, Don't Tell, among other things).

My Quote of the Week is from the *Ex* editorial on Hawaii Circuit Judge **Kevin Chang's** ruling against Hawaii's ban on gay marriages: "The burden should rest on opponents of gay marriage to prove just what harm is caused [by gay marriages]. If gays make lousy parents, that should be proved. If the institution of marriage is at risk, that should be proved. If the stability of society is threatened, that should be proved. If our moral fiber and national spirit are imperiled, that should be proved. If more kids, or more adults, will be made unhappy, that should be proved. When people act without sufficient evidence, that's when the world really starts going to hell in a handbasket." ▼

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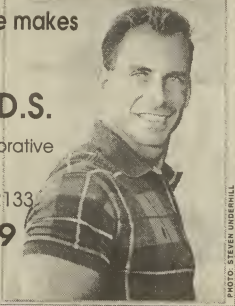


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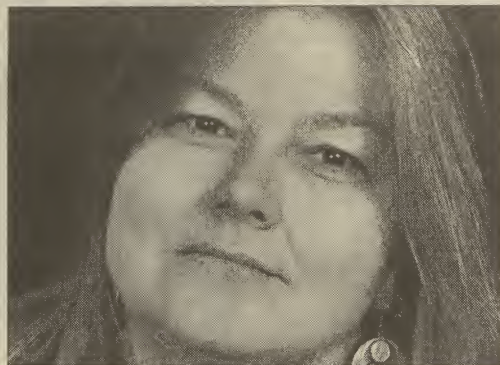
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# Live in the new year

by Beth Elliott

Take a Meeting...And Shove It Dept.: If you've been looking forward to the film version of Dorothy Allison's *Bastard Out of Carolina*, I'm afraid you'll have to cool your jets. One of the studio suits has nixed release because of concerns that it's too nasty, like Bobdole says about Hollywood movies. (*Bastard* can, however, be seen on the small screen: Showtime, this Sunday, December 15, 9 p.m. ET/PT.)

It wasn't lesbian content that held up release, but the incest theme. Now, if you've read *Bastard Out of Carolina*, you didn't have to read between the lines to get Dorothy Allison's take on incest, namely that *she's agin it*. So perhaps these studio executive types are so used to thinking in terms of content without regard to context that the subtlety of a stinging denunciation of daughter (or stepdaughter) rape is lost on them as they scramble to make the most sanctimonious show of driving NC-17-worthy topics



JILL POSENER

Dorothy's difficulties: The film version of Allison's much-acclaimed debut novel will finally have its premiere this Sunday.

from their doorsteps.

It makes me wonder how those made-for-TV movies, in which a woman fights back from whatever, get made. Is the "one woman's struggle to..." just window dressing for getting a damsel into distress and her bodice ripped? A hook for delivering female demographics while throwing in enough nasty "effects" to leave the screening room floor nice and sticky?

One would think anyone married to Jane Fonda

would be the type to look beneath the surface for message and subtext instead of calculating the stroke-per-minute ratio. Time to dust off the Evil Anti-Tomahawk Chop and give Ted Turner the salute he deserves.

## Feces flinging

The latest case of "lateral violence" in our community — kitty litter flinging, etc. by blind fools who think their "pure" motives make them innocent of assault (and do we think there was a subtext of woman-hating in the choice of targets? Yes, indeedly do!) — makes me long to see real anger come out of our community and not just petulance. While I was thrilled to read of a young gay man winning \$900,000 in court from the high school that did nothing to protect him from anti-gay harassment and assault, I'm still reading about too many cases of violence and threats of violence against gay and lesbian folk — and too little about our knocking homophobic heads together and kicking testosterone-crazed butts.

If we're as proud to be who we are as we say we are, we could prove it by really showing in daily life that we believe we're worth defending. Even defending ourselves unsuccessfully

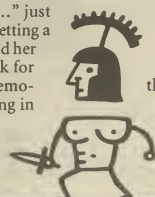
would have a positive effect: it would start giving the message to bullies that attacking us may be hazardous to their health. If they assume they can harass us with impunity — that is, if they know us

to be targets that don't fight back — guess what? They risk nothing by hassling us! Streets would be safer for us if they had risks to weigh when getting that hair up their butts to queer bait. Remember what your mother told you: bullies are cowards.

I also hope I never again have to hear words like those recently spoken by a visiting friend: "Well, the season has begun." She said that when telling me of providing support for a friend who'd been the one to discover the after-effects of an ex's driving across a number of states to reach a particular apartment in which to end her life. By "season," she meant the holiday season as suicide season, since so many suicides do bottom during the festivals of light, when people are supposed to be happy and surrounded by loved ones.

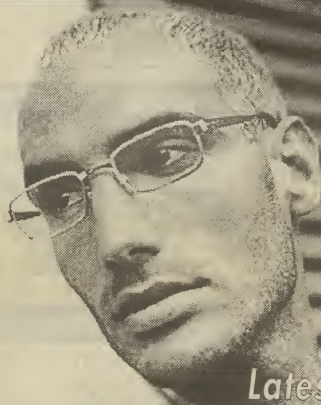
Again, if we're as proud to be who we are as we say we are, what gives with talking about the tragedy of suicide in a way that says it's so common among us it has its own damned season? Hearing that phrase made me bloody angry. It came out of the

next page ►



## Sapphistication

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## Arizona artisans



**B**ig Mountain, Arizona weavers (l to r) Katie Turcap, Elsie Shay, May Shay and Alice Benalla were one of the highlights at the 18th annual Celebration of Craftswomen. Besides selling their famous handmade blankets, these Navajos also demonstrated how they're made. The fair, which benefits the San Francisco Women's Building and features the work of over 280 craftswomen, continues this weekend at Fort Mason.

Jesse Phillips/Gleaner

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## Sapphistication

◀ page 10

mouth of a strong woman who practically embodies pride. It was spoken about a circle of friends in a community in which pride is an everyday word. Either that pride failed, or it was not what it pretended to be.

### Light in the darkness

The festivals of light in winter are indeed about joy, about making art out of the dark of the year. About finding some commonality and goodwill among people, even if only temporarily. They're there for enjoying, not for measuring one's self against some arbitrary set of holiday experiences anyone's supposed to have. With all the horror stories about holiday togetherness that live even in the mythology of the holidays, and with ours in this region being such an incredibly transient community, I hope those among us feeling hopeless this season stop and realize it's only an illusion that makes things weigh more heavily.

Pride is supposed to make everything okay - so when it isn't enough, people often blame themselves. But pride isn't meant to make life easier; it's meant to make living easier. We think we have to pretend it doesn't hurt to be unwelcome back home during the holidays, or welcome only if we play straight. Can you understand it's okay if that hurts, because pride doesn't change the fact that it sucks? Pride is meant to let us know and live our self-worth no matter how much of a challenge this can be in a society that's still learning.

Unfortunately, we have among us people who crave unanimous internalization of their "narrative" of gayness, which presents us as totally fabulous and ever so hipper than other people just for being queer. This can be very hard on those who don't succeed as rainbow clones - at matching themselves, their interests and their values to the groupthink. Dear ones, the people who make the biggest show of being the hippest are often the least secure. There are more of us who don't fit in "our" community than do; being way down at this time of year may actually be a sign of a healthy individuality. To be yourself is something beautiful and well worth living for.

In a big country, dreams stay with you like a lover's voice fires the mountainside. Stay alive. Please. ▼

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# Pink pinkos?

by David Bianco

**T**his week in gay history: The U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Investigations releases its report on the "Employment of Homosexuals and Other Sex Perverts in Government" December 15, 1950.

Between 1950 and 1954, Republican U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin constantly made headlines with his attacks on communists and other "subversives" whom he claimed had infiltrated the entire federal government. Although McCarthy was only one of many public figures who crusaded against "anti-American" employees of the federal government, his attention-grabbing stunts and blowhard persona helped lend his name to the phenomenon now known as McCarthyism.

Although less well-known than the campaign against com-

munist, the McCarthy era also saw a widespread push to root out "perverts" from government service – and the overwhelming majority of those "perverts" were lesbians and gay men. About two weeks after McCarthy's first media splash, in which he alleged that hundreds of communists were working in the State Department, a top State Department official indicated that nearly a hundred of his agency's employees had resigned amid concern that they were security risks, adding, "Most of these were homosexuals."

This revelation caused a media stir, appearing on the front page of the next day's *New York Times* and causing many both inside and outside the government to ask just how widespread was the infiltration of sex perverts within the ranks of government. Few questioned the assumption that homosexuals serving in government positions posed a threat to national secu-

rity – whether through the risk of blackmail or through the presumed weakness and incompetence of "moral degenerates."

Although other legislators, particularly the prominent Republican Nebraska Senator Kenneth Wherry, took the lead in investigating the presence of homosexuals in government, McCarthy himself also pointed fingers. For example, he complained to a Senate subcommittee that one gay man had been protected from losing his State Department job because of political pressure from the Democrats.

Throughout 1950, the investigations continued, and dozens of lesbians and gay men lost their jobs each month. In December of that year, the Senate Subcommittee on Investigations released its report on the "Employment of Homosexuals and Other Sex Perverts in Government," which charged that gays were generally unsuitable for government jobs – in part because they enjoy each other's company and thus "it is almost inevitable that [they] will attempt to place other homosexuals in government jobs." Worse, the report continued, homosexuals' emotional instability "makes them susceptible to the blandishments of the foreign espionage agent."

This report and the other accusations of the McCarthy era were turned into concrete homophobic policies as the 1950s wore on. The FBI began surveil-

lance of gay bars and social networks, while the Post Office began keeping track of homosexuals by noting the subscribers to physique magazines and gay pen-pal clubs. Soon after Eisenhower took office in 1953, he issued Executive Order 10450, which made "sexual perversion" acceptable grounds for firing any government employee, from the military to the Library of Congress. According to one estimate, as much as 20 percent of the American work force was subject to McCarthy-era rules that could allow summary dismissal because of homosexuality.

McCarthy's public humiliation and censure in 1954 (which involved his closeted gay aide Roy Cohn's mendacity and audacity in spending public funds) ended his role as the demagogue of the decade. But the anti-gay policies of the McCarthy era, along with their inevitable psychological effects on the fragile gay and lesbian community of the time, long outlived the public career of their founder.

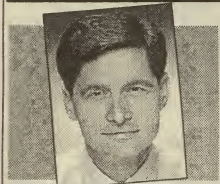
The greatest irony of this historical episode is the fact that McCarthy was often accused, McCarthy-style, of having been gay himself. A bachelor for 45 years until he married a member of his staff in 1953, McCarthy's sexuality was the subject of innuendo both during his life and since. At the height of McCarthy's power, a newspaper publisher who had previously tangled with the senator wrote, "It is common talk

among homosexuals in Milwaukee who rendezvous at the White Horse Inn that Senator Joe McCarthy often engaged in homosexual activities. The persons in Nevada who listened to McCarthy's radio talk thought he had the queerest laugh. He has. He is."

It is not a coincidence that those who were most feared in the McCarthy era were communists, homosexuals, and Jews. The three groups share key characteristics, which posed a threat to an insecure nation at the outset of the Cold War. Communists, homosexuals, and Jews are not always easy to spot. They may conceal their political opinions, masquerade as straight, or change their last names, but heterodox they remain – often discreetly meeting with fellow travelers. Less than two decades after members of these groups were sent to concentration camps on the other side of the Atlantic, they again found themselves thrown together, this time in a vicious campaign of innuendo, slander, and attack on their livelihoods. ▼

David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. The author of *Modern Jewish History for Everyone*, he can be reached care of this publication or through his e-mail address: [AriBianco@aol.com](mailto:AriBianco@aol.com).

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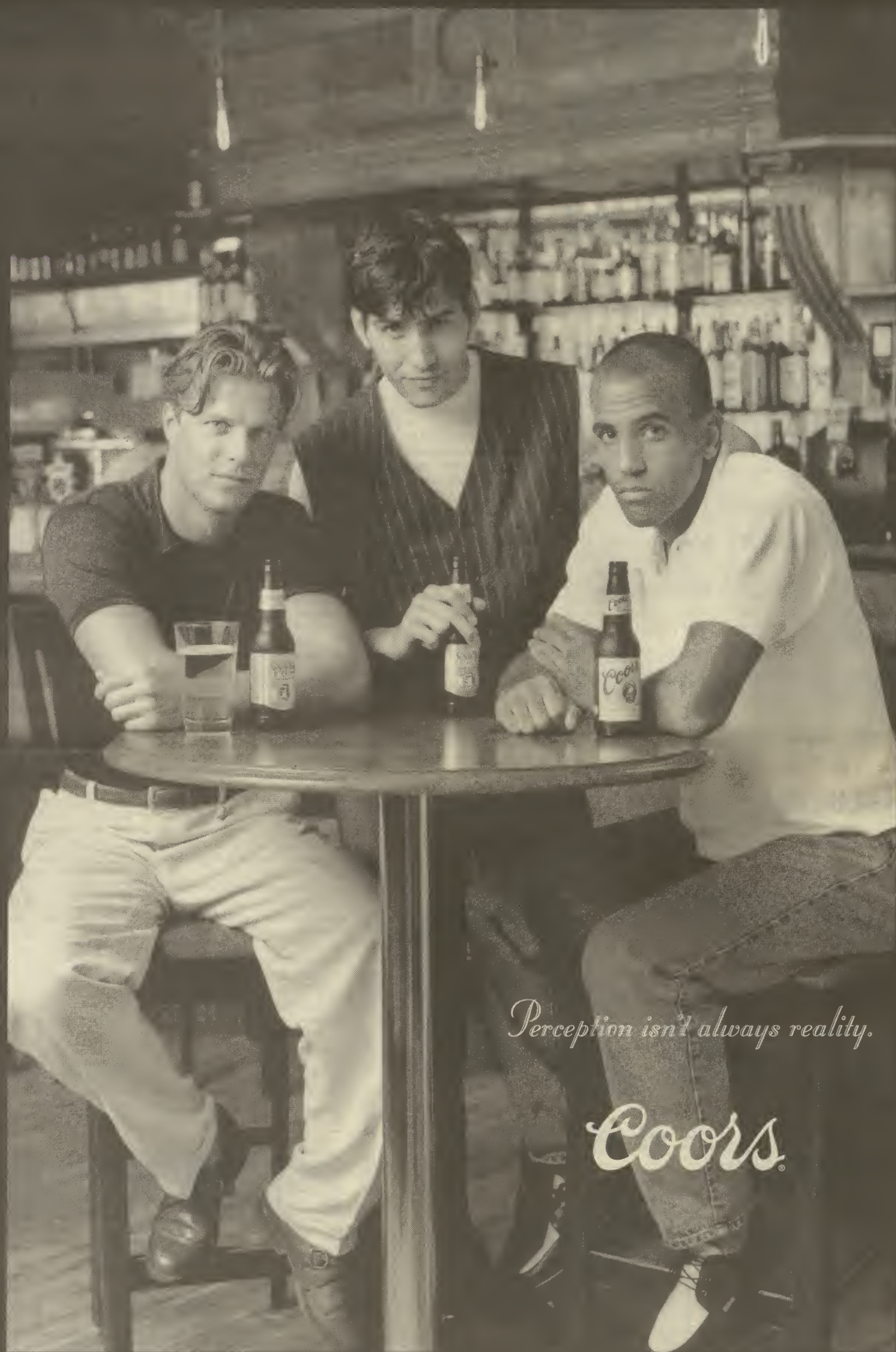
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# Shopping the cybermall

by Terry Beswick

There must be a gene that predisposes some of us to shop with panache—a gene that goes way back to our simian ancestors. Probably the same gene that makes some primates proficient at gathering nuts and berries, foraging for grubs, and grooming lice and other goodies also makes them good at locating the perfect little pillbox, belt, and clutch to match those darling size 15 DKNY ink suede booties. I did not inherit this gene, I'm sorry to say.

Yes, it's true: I'm a homosexual who hates to shop.

This is a trait I believe I picked up from my father; he dislikes shopping even more intensely than I. Try as he might, he's just no good at it. I recall that, at the formative age of 13, one of my most profound disappointments was to receive as a gift one set of enormous, multi-colored "Pick-up Sticks" which were clearly labeled: "Recommended for Ages 3-6." Of course, now I realize that there was no malicious intent behind this gesture—my father was simply born shopping-challenged—plus he's cursed with heterosexuality.

In recent years, he has resorted to that primitive virtual shopping medium, the **Home Shopping Channel**, merely to "get it over with" when forced to produce gifts for family occasions. He wishes to avoid the tortured experience of shopping in the real world altogether.

And because I am also differently-abled in the shopping department, I try not to appear ungrateful each Christmas when under his hopeful gaze I unwrap yet another poly-knit sweater or a pair of slippers with battery-operated headlights.

"Oh, Daddy, Daddy! Happy, happy, joy, joy!"

Yet while I know it fills ole Dad with the **Christmas Spirit** to know he's helping **Kathy Lee Gifford** to avoid laying off more workers, the problem with the **Home Shopping Channel** is that he just passively sits there, staring at the tube while some bimbo dangles a charm bracelet in his face for half an hour, making sure that it twinkles back and forth just so under the studio lights, back and forth, twinkle, twinkle, back and forth, twinkle... It doesn't take much of this before even the most savvy shopper breaks down and calls in.

"Yes, Kathy. Take my first born, Kathy..."

## Check out from reality

Determined never to end up this way, last month I turned off the **cable TV**. I prefer to at least pretend I retain some small measure of free will. I decided that this year I would shop on the Internet, where I am complete master of all I see and all I buy.

What's really delicious about Virtual Shopping is that I can shop for whatever I like without anyone snooping to see what's in my shopping cart, or pressuring me to make a decision I'm certain to regret. I can browse for hours, change my mind as often as you please, and anonymously ask amazingly stupid questions.

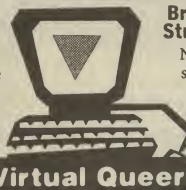
Gee, for the first time, I actually love to shop!

First I went shopping for a car. I don't know very much about cars, but after a few false starts, I finally found a virtual new and used car lot on the Web, the **Microsoft Carpoint**. They have such a lovely selection of all kinds of different colors! So I finally settled on an olive-green **1997 Mercedes-Benz SL600 Roadster** 5-speed Automatic Convertible with a V12 engine, leather bucket seats, a CD player, and cute cupholders on the dash. *Cute, cute, cute!*

Then the Carpoint people wanted to know if I wanted my new Mercedes "within the next 24

hours," within the next week, or within a couple months... Hmmmm... I checked the balance on my credit card and realized that I'm maxed out at \$200, so I might not be able to afford the \$123,200 asking price just right now. I told them to just send it by in a couple weeks...

But what would be the point of a cute new car without someone to share it with?



## Brad Pitt Stocking Stuffer

Now, I've done my share of politely cruising on the Web for a husband, but so far no cigar. In fact, I haven't even had a date yet, and the holidays are fast

approaching! So, I did what had to be done: I went back to my browser and entered "male escorts." Well, needless to say there were more services all over the world than I could possibly work through in a lifetime!

In the process of my search, though, I did uncover some very exciting nude GIFs of **Brad Pitt**. I'm still waiting to hear from him on his rates. He certainly would make a perfectly fine stocking stuffer. :-)

Just in case, I got out my credit card and fired up my favorite search engine, **Excite**, and tapped out "condoms." 143,742 sites came up, so I just went to the first one, "**Condomania**," which turned out to be quite helpful. They have a little interactive Wizard man who asked me a lot of highly personal questions about the size, shape and sensitivity of my most personal appendage before finally recommending a condom he thought most suitable for me: the new plastic condoms from **Avanti**. At \$11.95 for a half dozen, they seemed a little steep, but hey! Brad is worth it, isn't he? (I hope they fit him, too! Maybe I'll even get some of those pricey "female" Reality condoms and not tell him!)

Gee, I hope he responds to my e-mail. I'd really like to pull up to Dad's house at Christmas with my virtual Brad in my virtual Mercedes convertible. That'd show him how to shop! ▼

Bolded words above can be found as links at: <http://members.aol.com/Wired2BGay/vqz.html>. Comments to: [Wired2BGay@aol.com](mailto:Wired2BGay@aol.com).

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# Marriage goes a-courting: the Hawaii ruling media round-up

by Don Romesburg,  
GLAAD/SF media resource  
center manager

A media flurry has followed Hawaii Circuit Court Judge Kevin S.C. Chang's December 3 ruling, in which he found that the state had failed to show compelling evidence why same-sex couples should not be granted legal marriage. The *Baehr v. Miike* battle is far from over, though: The next day a stay was ordered until the decision is appealed to the state Supreme Court.

Whatever the final outcome, the story was big news this week—it was the lead story on the December 3 *CBS Evening News* and got ample coverage on both ABC and NBC. According to several sources, CNN coverage has been significantly less than that of the broadcast networks. Many major newspapers gave the story front-page attention, including *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Examiner*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, and the *Baltimore Sun*. Meanwhile, the media has already begun to spin out a number of angles for the story:

- On December 5, the *San Francisco Chronicle* criticized opponents of same-sex marriage in an editorial stating that "the recent House of Representatives vote on the so-called 'Defense of Marriage Act' show that old prejudices die hard. As the appeal of the Hawaii case makes its way to the state Supreme Court, there will be plenty more bluster about the threat to the foundation of Western civilization."

- On the same day, the *San Francisco Chronicle* featured an editorial cartoon showing two booths, labeled "Drive-Thru Weddings" and "Drive-Thru Divorces." The attendant in the first booth says, "I can't believe they might allow gay marriages in Hawaii," and the divorce booth attendant replies, "Is nothing sacred?"

- The lead editorial in the December 4 edition of the *Honolulu Advertiser* stated that "Judge

Chang's ruling is contrary to public opinion, but it was the right decision. And it's a decision that should make the majority carefully rethink their position. Hawaii has a history of leadership in civil rights, demonstrated when it pushed for equal rights for women and legalized interracial marriages. It is time for Hawaii to move forward on this civil rights issue, too."

- The *Los Angeles Times* Syndicate featured an offensive and simplistic attack on same-sex marriage by Cal Thomas in its December 5 edition, in which he hauls out all the old chestnuts of the radical religious right, saying, "While Hawaii has long been on the liberal fringe of many social issues, the struggle to maintain what remains of the social fabric will ultimately determine whether we continue to follow ancient Rome on the road to destruction, or come to our senses, turn around and re-enter a harbor of safety ordained by God for our own protection."

## The Schmitz sentencing: a tale of two stories

Following Jonathan Schmitz's December 4 sentence of 25 to 50 years in prison for killing Scott Amedure in the anti-gay murder trial, news from the Associated Press and Reuters told two different stories. The Associated Press focused once again on the "Secret Crush" episode of the *Jenny Jones* show, emphasizing that "[Schmitz's] defense lawyers said he had been fighting alcoholism, depression and a thyroid condition when the show's producers ambushed him and pushed him over the edge."

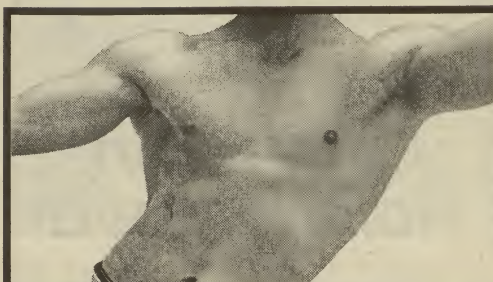
On the other hand, the Reuters story said that "the case, which drew international attention to the seamy side of daytime talk shows, was also tracked closely by groups concerned about anti-gay violence. One gay rights advocate who attended the trial said the sentence sent the right message because it was at the high end of what the judge could order. 'In a positive way it sends a message

that you will be responsible regardless of who your victim is," said Jeffrey Montgomery, president of the Detroit-based Triangle Foundation."

Please commend Reuters for finally discussing the fact that this was an anti-gay hate crime, and for suggesting that homophobia was on trial, not talk shows. Also suggest that the Associated Press follow Reuters's lead.

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# Dance Along Nutcracker is tutu much fun

by Shan Schwartz

This weekend is the 12th annual performance of a modern San Francisco tradition and an "Only in San Francisco" version of a Christmas classic.

Winds of Freedom, the "seated version" of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, will perform the music as Cheer San Francisco — and the public — do the dancing, at "The Dance Along Nutcracker" this Sunday, December 15, at 2 and 6 p.m. The show takes place at the Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens, located at 701 Mission Street (at 3rd).

Heidi Beeler, president of the Freedom Band, told the B.A.R. that the show's title means exactly what it says.

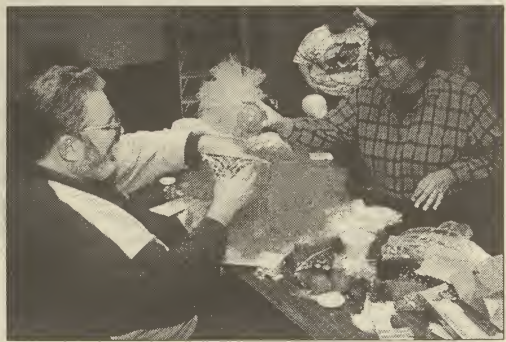
"The band performs The Nutcracker, and the audience does the dancing," she said. "Maybe only one-third of the audience dances, but with the ones who do, it's quite a riot."

In addition to the Nutcracker

member last year was so amazed by the troupe's physical feats, she expressed concern that the performers were going to hurt themselves.

"The stuff they do is impressive," Beeler said. "It is probably pretty dangerous — to themselves, not the audience."

Cheer San Francisco will also perform as the "Whos of Whoville"



Designer Bill Parrish and Sally Canjura work on a celebrity tutu to be auctioned off this Sunday.

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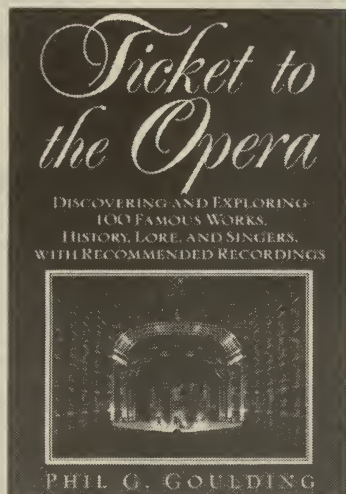
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Suite performance, the show will include excerpts from Dr. Seuss's *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, a country-western handbell choir, and a celebrity tutu auction.

A tutu rental booth in the theater offers the appropriate outfits for the walk-in dancers, but Beeler said many audience members come to the event already decked out in their own dancewear.

While the audience is encouraged to participate in much of the show, the gay cheerleading group formerly known as the "Raw RaHS" will also be performing during select musical numbers. The 18-member troupe now called "Cheer San Francisco" will perform during *The Nutcracker* as the Russian Cossacks and as *Tot Soldiers*.

"Those guys from Cheer San Francisco have got to be the most aerodynamic Cossacks in the history of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker*," said Lauren Hewitt, director of the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, which produces the show. "These guys do some really sophisticated flips and stunts, and their choreography is always performed with a large dose of humor."

Beeler said one audience

during music selections from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

### Belles, cows, cowbells...

Another local celebrity and legend in San Francisco's gay community, Jose Sarria a.k.a. the Widow Norton, will perform an all-new version of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Beeler said Sarria's magic wand was enhanced this year to perform some special-effect "magic" during the performance.

During intermission, a Celebrity Tutu Auction will help raise money for the John Sims Center, which also supports the Freedom Band and Cheer San Francisco. Participants can bid on tutus decorated with donated materials or popular themes from local celebrities, including Mayor Brown, City Supervisors Tom Ammann and Leslie Katz, Cecil Williams, and Muffin Devlin-Spencer, a lesbian professional golfer who was recently featured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*.

Also performing during the show will be Professor Marvel's Wild West Handbell Chorale, which Beeler said would feature a cow playing its own cowbell.

The idea for the Dance Along

page 23 ►

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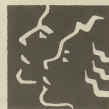
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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Gay community center opens in Contra Costa

by Jaime Cader

The Rainbow Community Center, Contra Costa County's first gay and lesbian community center, will proudly open its doors to the general public this Sunday, December 15, for a holiday open house.

The center has been in the making for several years, according to RCC board member Kay Teeters. There have been different gay and lesbian organizations scattered around, but part of the problem was finding adequate space for groups to meet, Teeters commented.

In the fall of 1995, a town hall meeting was planned for the gay community in the Concord Library. Much effort was put into the publicity for the event by the organizers. Teeters recalled, "We were astonished. We were just overwhelmed by the number of people who showed up and the amount of energy there was ... and the interest in the community in having a center. And we were very pleased to see the level of support that there was."

"Things have snowballed ever since. I'm really excited about it. I think it's fabulous."

The RCC board of directors have been inspired by what other centers in the Bay Area have accomplished, particularly with

Spectrum in Marin County and with the Billy DeFrank Center in San Jose. Teeters said, "We've toured those centers and we've received a lot of encouragement from the staff at both these places. We definitely will trade information [with them], and we certainly do hope to work with other organizations, both here in the county and in other places as well."

Jamie Lotstein, who is also on the RCC board of directors, told

stein said.

P.H. Planning Commissioners have even been helpful to RCC board members. "We have our fingers crossed that maybe the times are better and we don't have to react the way we used to," added the open and friendly Lotstein.

The Rainbow Community Center will regularly hold meetings for social, educational, and support groups. Ideas for the types of groups or activities to be held at the center are taken direct-

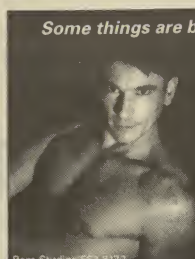
**"We were just overwhelmed by the number of people who showed up and the energy."**

— RCC board member Kay Teeters

ly from the gay and lesbian community in the area. The center covers a total of about 1,800 square feet and has eight rooms, plus two restrooms. It is located on 2637 Pleasant Hill Road, at the corner of Taylor Road in the Diablo View Plaza, in Pleasant Hill. ▼

This Sunday's open house will be from 1-5 p.m. Refreshments will be served. To obtain more information, please call (510) 927-8705.

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December 14 - Reception 2:00 - 4:00 pm

January 7 - Aids Artist Cliff Cox and Continuum Resident Artist Francis Binnington

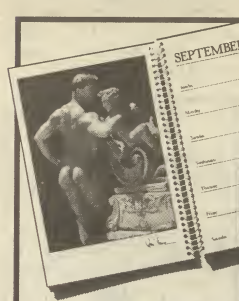
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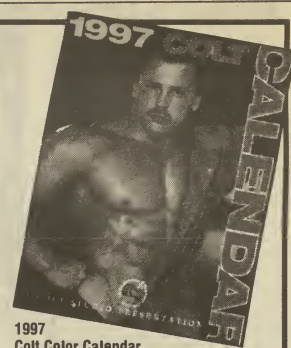
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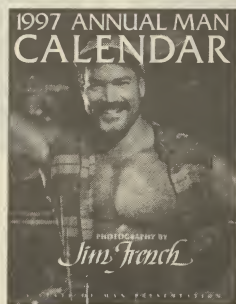
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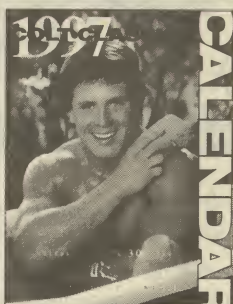
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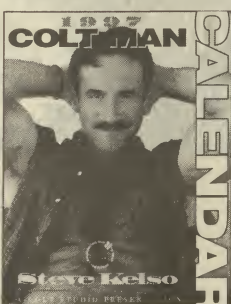
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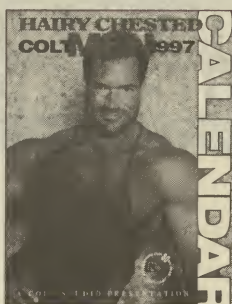
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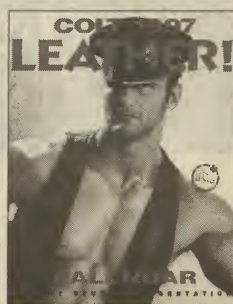
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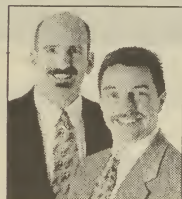
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# Merger gives HIVers one-stop shopping for jobs and benefits

by Dennis Conkin

People with AIDS seeking access to both benefits counseling and job placement services will be able to find them through a single intake process, following the recent merger of AIDS Benefits Counselors with Positive Resources.

Founded in 1987, ABC assists an estimated 2,000 clients a year in obtaining public and private entitlements, including longterm disability insurance, health insurance, and life insurance, as well as public benefits such as Social Security and MediCal. The service is provided free at ABC's Castro Street offices, and in Tenderloin and Mission satellite branches.

With an projected annual budget of nearly \$500,000 annually, AIDS Benefits Counselors also provides training and consultation to HIV service providers through Northern California. ABC is partially funded through the San Francisco Department of Health/Ryan White CARE Act, the San Francisco Academy of Friends, and the GAP Foundation.

Positive Resources is an employment services program whose mission is to empower persons living with HIV/AIDS to main-



Paul Vander Waerdt (l) and Paul Causey at 470 Castro Street.

tain their independence and quality of life through employment.

The agency was founded in January 1992, originally as part of the AIDS/HIV Life Center, but according to former Positive Resources Board Director Paul Vander Waerdt, an interim board of directors appointed for Positive Resources began the separation process last January.

Seven potential agency affiliations were reviewed by the board, and merger negotiations began with ABC last August.

The merger was announced Tuesday, December 3 and follows a ten-month community plan-

ning process that included a competitive proposal process, according to AIDS Benefits Counselors Executive Director Paul Causey, as well as a comprehensive survey to determine that ABC clients would be interested in incorporating Positive Resources.

"The planning process was vast and complete. We were delighted that AIDS Benefits Counselors scored so high with clients and providers," Causey said. "It's a significant step forward in the epidemic, and it's logical that ABC is the agency to take this step."

Employment services for people with HIV are a critically im-

portant part of the AIDS service infrastructure, according to Vander Waerdt.

Clients may have cashed in their work-related benefits or insurance policies, he said, but are living longer and healthier lives because of recent medical advances—and are bored and want to work.

Vander Waerdt also said researchers have found that people with HIV/AIDS who are employed live "significantly longer lives with fewer opportunistic infections" and generally enjoy better mental health than people with HIV who are unemployed.

"Our merger with ABC will significantly strengthen employment services for people living with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco," Vander Waerdt said.

Supported by major funding from the Mayor's Office of Community Development, the Levi Strauss Foundation, AIDS Walk 1996, and other resources, Positive Resources made 452 job placements—generating more than \$284,000 in client wages and salaries—through the year ending November 1996.

While the majority of the positions were temporary part-time placement according to PR statistics, a dozen clients were placed in full-time permanent jobs, and 48 clients were placed in permanent part-time positions.

"What we have found is that the vast majority of our clients want part-time jobs," Vander Waerdt said. ▽

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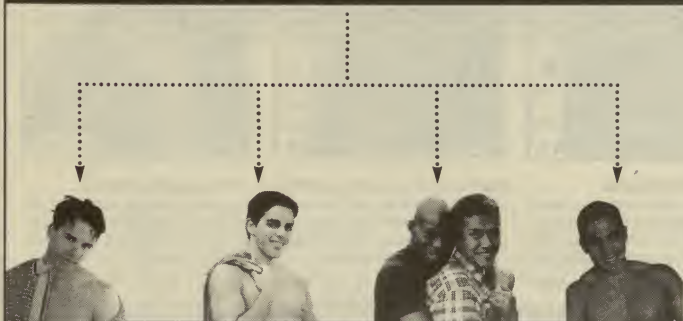
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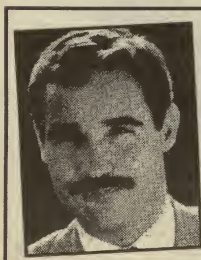




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# Rikki Streicher Field dedication Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

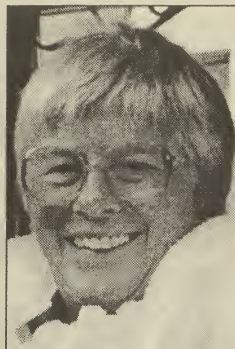
The late lesbian leader Rikki Streicher was known for her love of and involvement in gay sporting events, so it seems only fitting that local politicians, friends, and the public will gather at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center Sunday, December 15 to officially dedicate the Castro neighborhood's athletic field in her honor.

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission unanimously approved a proposal to rename Collingwood Park the Rikki Streicher Athletic Field at its October 17 meeting. Sunday would have been Streicher's 71 birthday; she died of cancer in 1994.

San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal will make the dedication. Last month the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a resolution declaring Sunday "Rikki Streicher Day" in the city.

Hydie Downard, a longtime friend of Streicher's who is helping plan the dedication ceremony, told the *B.A.R.* that naming the field after Streicher has "been a long time coming."

Downard, along with Mary Sanger, who had been Streicher's partner of 18 years, were among those who attended the Recreation and Park Commission meeting in support of naming the



Rikki Streicher

athletic field in honor of Streicher.

"We're looking forward to it," said Downard.

Speakers at the dedication ceremony will include Assemblywoman Carole Migden and Susan Kennedy, co-president of the Federation of Gay Games. Singer Sharon McNight is also expected to come up from Los Angeles, Downard said.

Following the ceremony, there will be a celebration at the Elbo Room, which used to be Amelia's, a popular lesbian bar Streicher owned and operated.

Streicher was a co-founder of

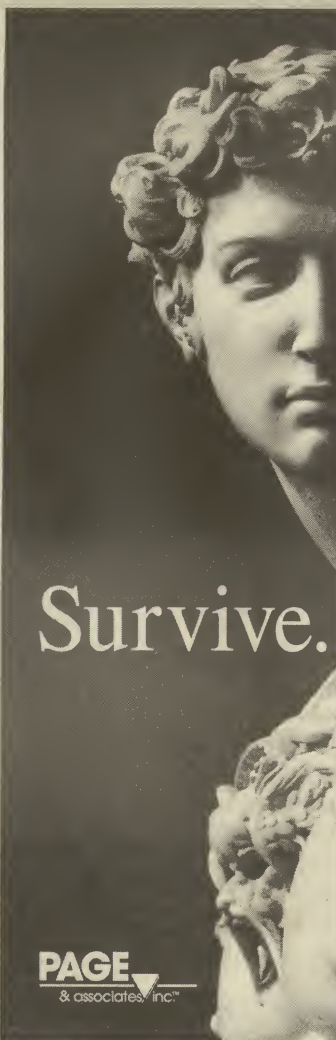
the Federation of Gay Games, and wrote the by-laws and articles of incorporation for the group that chooses the location and oversees the international athletic event. A lifelong sports enthusiast, Streicher was perhaps best known for her commitment to women's pool and women's softball.

She was inducted into the Gay Softball League's Hall of Fame in 1994. In June 1994, Streicher was honored with the Tom Waddell Cup at the closing ceremonies of the Gay Games in New York.

In addition to her support of various gay and lesbian athletic events, Streicher was an accomplished businesswoman. She was the owner of Maud's, a lesbian bar that was a community institution from the day it opened in 1966 until it closed in 1989.

Streicher and Maud's were immortalized by filmmaker Paris Poitier in *Last Call At Maud's*, a moving documentary that detailed the importance of Streicher and Maud's in the lives of the bar's patrons and the life of the local lesbian community. ▼

**The dedication ceremony begins Sunday at 2 p.m. at the athletic field, 19th and Collingwood streets. The celebration at the Elbo Room, 17th and Valencia streets, starts at 3 p.m.**




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# de Young Museum hosts Visual AID exhibit for Day Without Art

by Cynthia Laird

**A** Day Without Art" was recognized at the M.H. de Young Museum with an exhibit of artwork by 19 members of Visual AID/Artists for AIDS Relief.

Jim Fisher, executive director of Visual AID/Artists for AIDS Relief, said the exhibit was a collaboration between Visual AID and the de Young's Day Without Art Committee. Day Without Art is an internationally recognized day of action and mourning that commemorates artists who have died of AIDS. The official day was on Sunday, December 1.

The exhibit at the de Young ran from November 29 through December 8. A reception held on Wednesday, December 4 was especially moving, organizers said, since a number of the artists were on hand for the event.

"This was the first collaboration between Visual AID and the de Young's Day Without Art Committee," Fisher told the B.A.R.

David Faulk is one of the Visual AID artists who had two of his works displayed. He attended last week's reception and was pleased at the large turnout. He also praised the de Young for having the exhibition, which, he said, "made terrific use of the room."

"I was delighted. It was terrific exposure of some local artists who are still here," Faulk told the B.A.R.

Among those who had their work on exhibit was Visual AID artist Michael Johnstone, whose work on display at City Hall this fall was defaced.

Fisher said it was great to see the artists at the December 4 reception.

"Of the 19 people, most are still alive," Fisher said. "It was very rewarding to see the smiling faces of the artists. It was a very moving evening for me."

Fisher said the idea for the Visual AID exhibition was born when he reintroduced himself to Steve Nash, a deputy director at the de Young. The two had first met several years ago when both worked at museums in Texas. Fisher said Nash was aware of Visual AID and suggested a collaborative effort for the museum's Day Without Art project.

Visual AID/Artists for AIDS Relief supports Bay Area visual artists living with AIDS by providing art supplies and exhibition opportunities. ▼



The Visual AID gallery at the M.H. de Young Museum.

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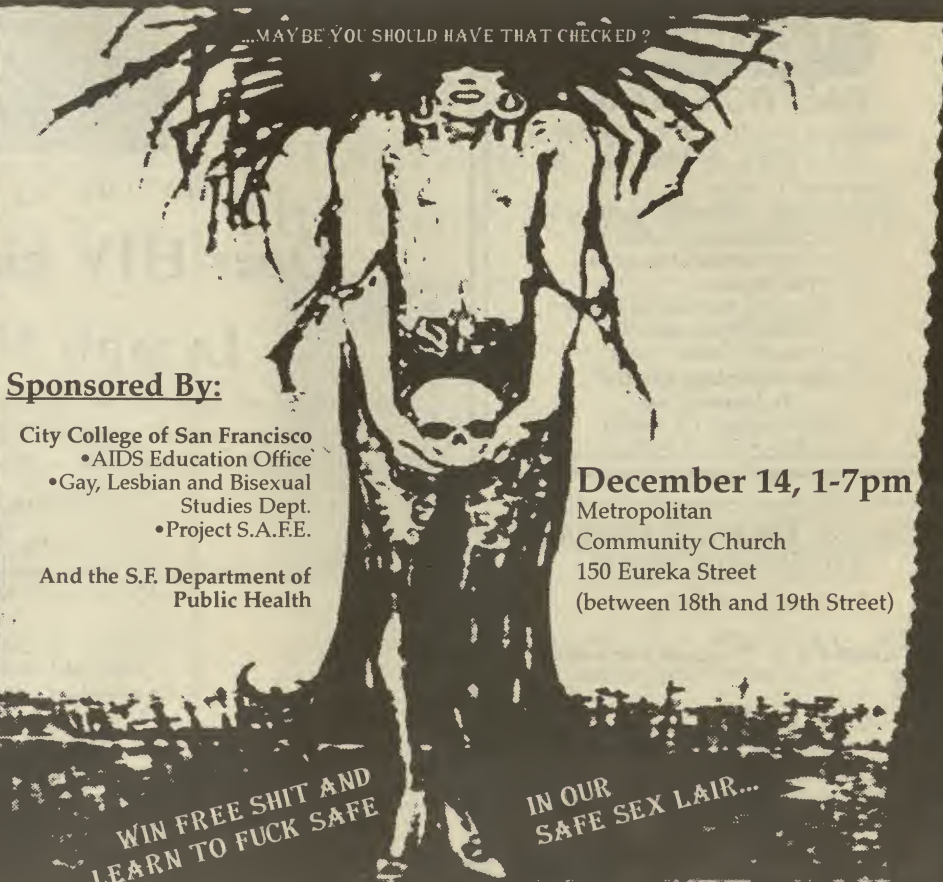
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# Chrysler dodge: Carmaker's denial of gay protection angers activists

by Jennifer Maerz

**T**he refusal of the nation's third-largest automaker, Chrysler, to include the words "sexual orientation" in the Equal Application of Agreement section of its recent contract with the United Auto

Workers (UAW) spurred a protest complete with picketing, linked informational Web sites, and a coordinated national demonstration. Picketers demonstrated outside several Chrysler dealerships across the U.S. for the first National Day of Protest last month, and ongoing picketing is still in place in

Auburn Hills, Michigan.

Many proponents of equal rights say the carmaker's refusal to budge symbolizes the deaf ear Chrysler turns towards its gay, lesbian, and transgendered employees. But the Campaign for Equal Rights at Chrysler, a coalition headed by Chrysler employee Ron Woods, is making its opposition heard.

Woods, who is out on medical leave, claiming repeated ignored physical harassment from employees, wants increased sensitivity/diversity training at Chrysler and the inclusion of the words "sexual orientation" to the UAW contract. The carmaker defends its refusal by refusing the need for specific legal protection based on sexual orientation in their contracts.

"We have made a conscious effort to not name specific individuals [in the contract]," Chrysler spokesperson Lori McTavish said, "but we have not made a decision to exclude gays."

When questioned about the company's inclusion of other individual markers but not sexual orientation, McTavish replied, "We name race and religion but we don't name ... groups. We don't break those [categories] down." She adds that the company has a general policy for harassment already in

place.

Woods wants more than lip service. "I may refuse to go back to work until they make some changes," he said.

The only response so far from the car company has been a letter circulated by CEO Robert Eaton. The letter reminded employees about the company's Diversity Statement, which Eaton claims affirms that Chrysler "does not tolerate harassment or discrimination of any employees on any basis, including sexual harassment." The Diversity Statement specifies race, gender, and "affirmative action goals" that are included in the scope of the carmaker's efforts, but it does not specify sexual orientation.

## Union jacked?

The "No Special Rights" lingo used by Chrysler, similar to that of many anti-gay groups, is unacceptable to the many gay, lesbian, and transgendered employees—and to the UAW that represents them. The 1996 UAW Contract Demand Book states that the organization demands a diverse membership and rejects anyone or any company that allows discrimination. Specifically, the union demands that the words "sexual orientation" be included with race, sex, religion, creed, color, national

origin, age, disability and "handicap" status in a company's non-discrimination clause.

Despite UAW's policy, 73 percent of the union members voted to ratify the Chrysler contract without the clause included, said UAW member Dave Reckinger, recruitment analyst for Chrysler National Services and Parts Division. UAW headquarters would not return repeated requests for response by prestime.

Members of the Campaign for Equal Rights at Chrysler say the general discrimination policy is not enough protection, and are feeling frustrated.

"If you can't name it, you're ignoring it," said Maggie Heine-man, who previously worked on the Campaign with Woods, but who is now working on other related projects.

Woods said will not give up until he sees Chrysler take action to prevent what he calls the ritualized abuse he claims to suffer. "I want real, substantial change," he reiterated. ▼

To contact The Campaign for Equal Rights at Chrysler, e-mail Ron Woods at [MitchRook@aol.com](mailto:MitchRook@aol.com) or go to the website at <http://members.aol.com/chrysler/camp.history.htm>.



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# PETA to honor homophobic in LA

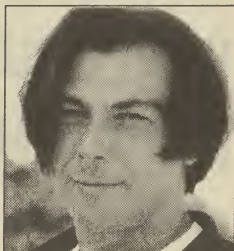
by Bob Roehr

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is once again demonstrating its priority for animals over people with AIDS. This time the locale is a Paramount Studios set in Los Angeles, where PETA's Animals Ball and Humanitarian Awards Gala is scheduled for this Saturday, December 14.

The award recipients include Ricki Lake, Martina Navratilova, Ellen DeGeneres, Todd Oldham, and a homophobe from the Senate.

Yes, nestled among those good gay folks, whose friends' lives have been so greatly improved by protease inhibitors first tested in animals — a practice PETA would prohibit — is one of the biggest homophobes in Washington: Republican Senator Robert Smith of New Hampshire. All are getting the same "Humanitarian Award."

Smith is no ordinary garden-variety zero-rating-from-the-Human Rights Campaign (HRC) legislator. He is an outright homophobe, and one of only three Senators to vote against reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act for people with AIDS. Of course he wants to muzzle effec-



Steve Michael

tive HIV prevention education, putting him in the illustrious company of Jesse Helms.

A "patient vigil to tell the naked truth about PETA" is planned for outside the gala, organized by Americans for Medical Progress in association with the American Heart Association, California Biomedical Research Association, and ACT UP/Los Angeles.

Steve Michael of ACT UP Washington spoke of the hypocrisy of gay and lesbian stars lending their names to a ceremony that will honor as virulent a homophobe as Smith.

"You can't wear a red ribbon and give an opponent of HIV prevention an award," he said. "You can't do it." ▼

# L.A. schools' domestic partner battle turns nasty

United Press International

The Los Angeles Unified School District, one of the largest in the nation, is considering whether to extend employee insurance benefits to domestic partners, a published report said.

The proposal has fired up an intense debate between the school board's first openly gay president, Jeff Horton, and more conservative board members who claim schools must "uphold the honor of marriage," the *Los Angeles Times* reported Monday, December 9.

Horton, who did not come out until after his 1991 election to the board, has cited similar measures recently passed by Los Angeles city and county, adding that the benefits extension for the district is now "long overdue."

Dozens of cities, counties, companies, and districts throughout the state are considering whether to liberalize insurance

coverage, the newspaper said, with many in Northern California eventually opting to insure domestic partners.

The board held brief but emotionally charged hearings last week on the issue, which would offer health, dental, and vision coverage for live-in partners of employees, whether homosexual or heterosexual, by the 1998-99 school year, the newspaper said.

The extended coverage proposal was recommended by the district's health and welfare committee and has received much support from major employee unions.

"It really came from the unions," Horton told the *Times*. "In fact, I feel like I'm going to have to support it a little more assertively. This is a fundamental equity issue."

Horton's opponents told the *Times* schools are hesitant to add another \$3.7 million to their annual bill and that they have already spent too much money on "homosexual programs." ▼

## Nutcracker

◀ page 16

Nutcracker was a spin-off from the Sing-Along Messiah, Beeler said. This is the 12th year for the performance and the third year at Yerba Buena Gardens. Both Nutcracker shows have sold out in recent years, but Beeler said some tickets would probably be available Sunday at the door. ▼

Tickets are \$6 for the 2 p.m. show and \$12 for the 6 p.m. show, and they can be purchased from the Yerba Buena Gardens Center for the Arts box office, (415) 978-2787. For more information about the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts or any of its programs (including the Freedom Band and Cheer San Francisco), call (415) 554-0402.

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## Hernandez talks about Health overhaul to HIV planning council

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco's Health Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez made an appearance at the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council meeting Monday, December 9 and talked about the state of public health in the city, as well as her efforts to reorganize the department.

Hernandez said integration of services is the key, adding that virtually every plan her department has developed over the years has stated that message.

The massive reorganization of the health department, which is in the preliminary stages, will ultimately result in the department going from six divisions to two divisions. Hernandez said she's also looking to link financing streams.

"We've got incredible leadership in the city at this time. We've got the plans. It takes courage to change the system," said Hernandez. "I really do believe in putting everything on the table. From my perspective, we have many more assets."

In some respects, the federal Ryan White CARE Act was "way ahead of us," Hernandez explained, as planning councils that prioritize the federal funds have had to look at the "whole picture" of HIV/AIDS services. Housing and medical care are just two of many service categories funded by CARE money locally. Substance abuse, mental health, and client advocacy are some others.

Hernandez said the key is looking at models that have worked and those that have not, and she talked about a triangle of access, quality, and cost, not only in relation to HIV/AIDS services, but for the entire health

system provided by the city.

"I'm managed care skeptical too," she said, adding, "what I'm talking about is managing care."

### More spending on drugs

Hernandez, who used to serve as a co-chair on the planning council, also talked about the changes in the AIDS epidemic. She noted that in 1992-93, seven percent of the city's pharmacy dollars went for antiviral drugs. Today, that number has jumped to 25 percent of the city's pharmacy budget. But, she said, the city continues that spending because "it's the right thing to do."

She also talked about recent meetings by the Board of Supervisors to start a citywide program of substance abuse treatment on demand. Substance abuse has an impact on many city budgets, including the criminal justice system, she observed.

"We've got to deal with the drug epidemic," said Hernandez, adding she hopes to move toward drug treatment on demand in a phased way.

At a supervisors committee meeting last month, Supervisor Susan Leal said she'd like the program to be a priority in the city's 1997-98 budget.

Finally, Hernandez discussed the importance of quality, noting the word has "a lot of different connotations."

"I'm committed to measured outcomes," she said, adding evaluations of HIV/AIDS prevention programs and monitoring contractors is the health department's job.

"It's a huge change in function, but it's our responsibility to do. No one evaluates prevention programs," Hernandez told the council. "We do have a lot of high quality here. As a system overall, it works." ▼

## PWA elected SFAF chair

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation Board of Directors announced on December 10 that 34-year-old Paul Wisotzky, a gay man living with AIDS, will become chairman of the 19-member panel of directors. A two-year member of the board, Wisotzky assumes the new role in January.

Also elected to the board were Jeffrey Weisman, president of First Design, and longtime youth and AIDS activist Eric Ciasullo, both people living with AIDS.

A former senior research associate for Harder+Company Community Research, a consulting firm that works with nonprofit and public health and human services agencies, Wisotzky moved to California from New Hampshire in 1989. He has served previously on the board of Life AIDS Lobby and as co-chair of the Project Inform board of directors. He currently serves on the board of directors of the National Association of People With AIDS.

"I wasn't a fan of the foundation when I began serving on the board two and a half years ago. I was a skeptic and a critic," Wisotzky told the B.A.R.

Saying that his experience as a board member changed his mind about SFAF, Wisotzky says that one of his major goals as a gay man living with AIDS is to help the foundation "tell our story better" than in earlier years.

The 14-year-old foundation has an annual budget of \$17 million and provides direct services to more than 2,000 clients a year, coordinates more than 400 volunteers, conducts HIV prevention campaigns, provides AIDS policy advocacy, and distributes AIDS treatment information worldwide. ▼



# HIV council urges agencies: Work together for Tenderloin contract

by Cynthia Laird

**A**gencies that respond to the AIDS Office's request for proposal (RFP) to provide services in the Tenderloin area should be strongly encouraged to collaborate with one another and to show linkage with existing services, the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council decided at its Monday, December 9 meeting.

The 18-2 vote encourages the RFP review panel to give preference to proposals that provide for three themes outlined in the council's five-year plan. Those are: a roving team of providers, addressing the needs of the multiply diagnosed, and the coordination of services between providers.

The Tenderloin RFP, as it's come to be called, is for \$384,000 in federal Ryan White CARE funds. It is expected to be put out to bid by the end of December, and services are scheduled to start April 1, 1997, said Marcy Fraser of the city's AIDS Office. Currently, Shanti has the contract, successfully bidding after another agency, AIDS Indigent Direct Services, could not provide the services.

Fraser and some council members emphasized that the RFP, when it is awarded, will not meet all of the needs of clients in the Tenderloin, an area of the city historically underserved in terms of

access of CARE funds and provision of services.

"I want to caution people that this one RFP for \$384,000 will not solve all the problems," council co-chair Laura Thomas said.

## 'I read this shit'

Dr. Sandra Hernandez, health director for the city, pointed out that history has shown collaborations among agencies rarely work; only one out of every four has done what they've said they would do.

In spite of those statistics, council member Tom Calvanese was adamant that the council give direction to the panel that will review the bids once they are submitted. Calvanese read from the federal CARE legislation that stated as long as a particular service provider is not named, the council can give such direction.

"It's our job to instruct you guys. We have a responsibility," Calvanese said. "I got the new CARE Act, and there is more responsibility [given to planning councils]. That's why I read this shit. I just want reassurance you're taking this seriously."

Calvanese also said he wanted to see a "significant number of people who work in the Tenderloin, and a significant number of people living with HIV" on the RFP review panel.

Gene Copello, chief of health services and prevention at the

AIDS Office, responded by saying the RFP review panel will include people familiar with the area and people who have HIV.

"The RFP will be responsive to the concerns expressed," Copello said.

Council member Will Carter agreed with Calvanese, "I do want to make sure that a year from now, we deliver part of what we know they [Tenderloin residents and service providers] are asking for."

Fraser said she and her staff have taken all of the information provided at many public meetings held on the Tenderloin RFP, along with visits to the area, and have put together "the very best RFP we can."

"I was down there last week and heard three things I've never heard before: clean white socks, Gatorade, and bus tokens," Fraser said.

## Underserved population

Council member Diane Jones pointed out that the Tenderloin has a concentration of residents who will be most affected by changes in welfare and other "conservative hits" coming down.

"The population living in the Tenderloin living with HIV represent the most complex and most underserved. We've failed consistently in the last 14-15 years," Jones said.

Prior to the council's discussion

and vote on the matter, they heard from Warren Goldenberg, chairperson of the Tenderloin AIDS Coalition, who briefly discussed a new Bridge program that's expected to start in early 1997.

The federally funded project is a collaborative effort of Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, AIDS Benefits Counselors, Immune Enhancement Project, Family Service Agency, Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center, Tom Waddell Health Center, and Visiting Nurses and Hospice. It will provide comprehensive housing, supportive and primary health services to multiple-diagnosed persons with HIV/AIDS of San Francisco who previously have not been able to access current systems of housing and supportive services due to their mental illness and/or substance abuse diagnosis.

Patricia Chiapellone, project director, stated that through the development of public and private partnerships between experienced HIV service providers and owners of single residency occupancy hotels (SRO), multiple-diagnosed HIV clients will be able to "access vital supportive services necessary for sustaining housing at the hotels at which they reside."

The client is at the center of the model and is the point at which all service provision revolves. Instead of forcing the client to move through a process that may be impossible for the client to deal with, the process has been organized to allow maximum flexibility for the client.

Access to the Bridge system will be through the central office or by linking with the team at one of the cooperating hotels. ▼

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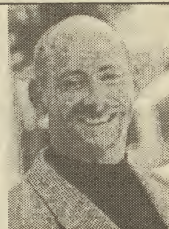
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# Kaiser: You've come a long way, baby!

by Steve Johnson and Bill Thorne, ACT UP/Golden Gate Writers Pool

One year ago on World AIDS Day, ACT UP/Golden Gate held a demonstration in front of the Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Medical Center to protest the poor quality of care received by Kaiser members with HIV/AIDS. An ongoing collaboration has been established between ACT UP/Golden Gate and Kaiser. Supervisor Tom Ammiano has been vitally important as both a city representative and mediator throughout the last year.

Significant progress has been made in improving services available to Kaiser members with HIV/AIDS. This progress includes:

- the availability of viral load testing;
- the planned HIV/AIDS clinic;
- the appointment of a coordinator of HIV/AIDS services;
- improved access to healthcare practitioners;
- a written Standard of Care, updated quarterly with community input;
- pharmacy customer assistance initiatives, including:
- information call-in lines;
- drug information sheets; and
- prompt incorporation of protease inhibitors into the drug

- formulary;
- availability of growth hormone;
- re-organization of the HIV Advisory Board; and
- the initiation of functional working relationships with community groups.

"We've made major improvements for people with AIDS at Kaiser in the last year; however, many major areas of concern have been identified repeatedly this year and remain to be addressed," comments David Mahon of ACT UP/Golden Gate. Some of the more recent concerns, which came to light at the latest meeting with Supervisor Tom Ammiano, include:

1. Kaiser's use of AZT-3TC as a first-line antiviral therapy for HIV, rather than triple combination using a protease inhibitor. It is imperative that members be given access to aggressive therapies, specifically the triple drug combo if the member so chooses. Widespread scientific, governmental and community agreement exists to support this approach.

2. Member access to second opinions and referrals to non-Kaiser physicians and medical services. Clear procedures need to be in place and well-publicized to members on what options exist if members are unable to obtain desired medical care from their current primary care physician or want another opinion. Members need to know how to change doctors as well. It should also be clear how and when members may receive specialized services or second opinions from non-Kaiser physicians, clinics or hospitals. The system is currently doctor-driven; it should become more member-driven, especially when a conflict exists between member and provider over treatment strategies.

3. Members obtaining growth hormone for wasting should not have to go through cumbersome administrative review. Currently a specialist and review board must be involved. Kaiser claims that in

the next quarter the primary care physician will be able to handle this entirely. Beyond resolving the procedure for growth hormone, these procedures should be streamlined for obtaining all new medications, tests and treatments as they become available.

**Additional concerns**

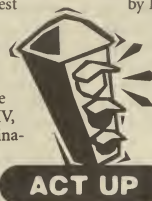
"Other ongoing concerns which have yet to be satisfactorily resolved exist," says Mahon. "Some of these have had quite a bit of contentious discussion and need to be satisfactorily addressed by Kaiser as soon as possible."

These concerns have been addressed in the spring and summer 1996 meetings of the HIV/AIDS Advisory Board and with Kaiser staff.

"The concerns have recently been discussed in several meetings of the KP members of the HIV/AIDS Advisory Board." These concerns are:

1. The Grievance and Appeals Procedure Manual should be subject to formal discussion by at least the HIV/AIDS Advisory Board, and subject to public comment before it is adopted and forwarded to the Department of Corporations. Procedures for grievances should provide for resolution that is not only timely but expedited, as the effects on the health of members can be severe. Grievances should be resolved within 30 days, with status reports to the member every ten days. Concern remains about language in the manual that moves the process beyond the 30 days or suggests that such time limits are unreasonable for KP staff to work within. Greater use of the five-day expedited review process should be employed; it should be delineated more clearly in the manual. These new procedures should be clear and well-publicized to members.

2. Customer Service Functions and Data Collection have been consistent concerns. Members have expressed concerns that their



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calls are not returned; calls should be returned within 24 hours. Members should be informed of the status of their case as it is being processed. The HIV/AIDS Advisory Board is provided monthly data on customer service activity. More data on the nature of the large number of phone calls and the aging of the written complaints should be provided to the HIV/AIDS Advisory Board. The aging data has been made available for one month. Serious study of the functioning of the department and its staffing are necessary. That study should include KP members and the Director's immediate participation in person. The Director should also participate in person on the HIV/AIDS Advisory Board, as many of the questions the Board considers are customer service matters that require someone with decision-making authority. The study should also lead to immediate action.

3. Relationship of Research to Clinical Services. The loose connection between the Research Unit and the clinical services

for greater coordination between the primary physician and specialists in contracted hospitals. The opening of the new HIV/AIDS Clinic holds great promise. How will the clinic coordinate with hospital services? What future plans does Kaiser have for hospital services for San Francisco members?

6. Pharmacy Services. The customer support services (especially telephone information on drug interactions) in the pharmacy are the result of dedicated staff efforts. These efforts should be institutionalized so they will be permanent. The availability and cost of prescriptions in the plan is controlled by the constitution of the formulary. Member and community input into the formulary process is not currently part of the process, but should be. The formulary should consist of all appropriate medications and include all relevant anti-viral, wasting and opportunistic infection strategies.

7. Information. Information about available services to members needs to be more readily

**"We've made major improvements for PWAs at Kaiser; however, major areas of concern remain."**  
—David Mahon, ACT UP/GG

available to members is a problem. The relationship should be clearer, and a Community Advisory Board should be formed to review all HIV-related research at Kaiser. More active collaboration with the ACTGs and the Stanford CAB are needed. The current advisory process is inadequate. Concerns have been previously expressed about the design and enrollment of studies with excessive control requirements and exclusion of non-Kaiser members. A community review of Kaiser's research funding is long overdue.

4. Mental Health Services. The interpretation of the contract benefit as a set number of sessions — where individual therapy, group therapy, and support groups may count equally — continues to be a matter of concern. Some changes have been made recently but do not go far enough. Support groups, whether drop-in or regularly constituted, should not count as sessions. The questions previously raised about the contract language and counting of individual and group sessions should be resolved.

5. Hospital Services. Member services are increasingly provided in non-Kaiser hospitals where patient care is not linked to the primary physician closely or at all. Where this is going in the future? There should be community and member input into the process of hospital selection and a process

available and especially publicized in communities disproportionately affected. This should include newspaper ads and publications, user-friendly services, and processes to ensure access to information and services in and out the new clinic. The HIV/AIDS Advisory Board needs to know certain information, especially about customer complaints. Currently information is withheld as confidential or proprietary, unnecessarily. Specific policies must be put in place to eliminate past problems.

8. Alternative Therapies. A quick resolution is needed from Kaiser regarding concerns about acupuncture, herbs and other alternative remedies that are not equally available to all members.

These concerns have been raised repeatedly over the last year. While many issues have been resolved during this past year, many remain. Supervisor Tom Ammiano has agreed to continue participating in this process throughout 1997. ACT UP/Golden Gate will continue to work to improve the quality of care for all HIV+ members of Kaiser and all other HMOs. ACT UP/Golden Gate has chosen Kaiser as the first HMO to address for quality of care for HIV/AIDS, as Kaiser is the largest HMO in the United States and has one of the largest HIV+ patient populations in San Francisco. ▼

## ACTION UPDATE

### Let's go see the Kaiser!

Kaiser San Francisco has an HIV Advisor Board made up of Kaiser staff and community members. Meetings are held monthly. This board has been involved in reorganizing itself these past few months and looks forward to taking a more activist role in matters pertaining to HIV care at Kaiser in the upcoming year. ACT UP/Golden Gate has official representatives on this Board. As such, we invite any Kaiser members with concerns, problems, or opinions about HIV care at Kaiser to please bring them to our attention. We can also give you more information about the Kaiser HIV Board, its policies and its mandate. You can do this by leaving a message for the Kaiser Working Group at ACT UP/Golden Gate at (415) 252-9200 or faxing us at (415) 252-9277.

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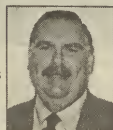


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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

### James (Jim) Kudla

November 20, 1996



Jim Kudla, 47, died peacefully at home in Corte Madera on Wednesday, November 20, after a blessedly short bout with liver cancer. He was a rhinestone fashion designer and manufacturer who moved from his hometown of Auburn, N.Y., to San Francisco in the early 1970s before moving to Marin County in 1983.

Jim was a friend to many and worked as a bartender in several local bars, including The City and The Stud. He was co-owner of Delights gift and clothing store in Corte Madera, and most recently, he was on the sales staff at Nordstrom/Corte Madera. He also devoted much of his time and money to charitable organizations, most notably The Positive Center in Marin County.

Jim is survived by his husband, John Williams of Corte Madera; stepchildren, Tyler and Haley Williams of Novato; parents, Nicholas and Betty Kudla; brothers, Ken and Dan Kudla, all of Auburn, N.Y.; and many dear friends, including Laura Miller of Novato and George Yahraes of Tiburon. Jim was the brother of the late Nick Kudla.

brother of the late Nick Kudla.

A private Mass was held on Friday, November 22, and a celebration of Jim's life is scheduled for Sunday, December 15, at The Positive Center, 535 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo, CA 94960. Memorial donations may be made to The Positive Center.

### David Roberts

November 20, 1996

Yet another star was created in the heavens above with the physical passing of our earthly friend, David Roberts.

His life, as well as his death, proved both rewarding and enlightening for those who were graced with his presence - and there were many!

Our friend David showed us how to enjoy life to its fullest. He was the life of every party, even to the end.

We, his friends, mourn the loss of his physical being, but rejoice, knowing we'll join him someday - and then the real party will begin. In peace, we remain his friends: David, Bud, Revius, George, Leslie and so many others.

In lieu of donations, please consider donating your time at Project Open Hand's Food Bank in David's name.

### Don Sánchez, D.C.

Nov. 22, 1943 - Nov. 23, 1996



Fondly remembered son, father, grandfather, companion, brother, uncle, friend, host, teacher and doctor. Dr. Don Sánchez received his master's in education from the University of Utah. He taught

art in Utah for 11 years. He received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College in Davenport, Iowa, in 1982 and practiced with his classmate, colleague and life partner, Dr. James E. Carlson, in Rocklin, Calif., since 1985. Dr. Sánchez worked with many of the 49er football players for nine seasons and through three Super Bowls. He was the personal chiropractor for running back No. 33 Roger Craig for 10 years.

Dr. Sánchez was blessed with many

talents: healing, herbalist, artist, pianist - plus he spoke several languages. He was the author of the book, *MAXIMUMITY*, and created an herbal garden with over 200 herbs collected from far and near. His first love was teaching and sharing his vast knowledge with his family, patients and friends.

A public memorial will be held Saturday, June 14, 1997, at 1 p.m. at Dr. Sánchez's Rocklin herb garden, according to his wishes. Donations may be made to Hospice and left with the staff at Cochranes Chapel of the Roses, Roseville, Calif.

### John J. Tally

December 7, 1996



John J. Tally, 40, died Saturday, December 7, at home in Bernal Heights, San Francisco, of AIDS. He was the beloved partner of Lycra Sheen (a.k.a. Gary Blais), the reigning Miss Gay San Francisco; son

of William J. Tally and the late Audrey Cordell Tally; and the brother of Bethann Coronado, Mary Brosche, Robert Tally, William Tally, Joan Tally and Paul Tally. He is also survived by numerous loving uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

John was a native of San Mateo, Calif., and a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and the University of San Francisco Law School. He practiced general law at his Mission District office for many years.

John was a strong advocate of mediation and alternative conflict resolution. After retiring due to illness, he devoted himself to research and writing on issues of violence prevention and gay rights.

A memorial Mass will be said Saturday, December 14, at 10:30 a.m. at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 100 Diamond St. in San Francisco. A name plaque for John will be placed in the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

## 'Singing for AIDS' concert this Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

Santa Rosa's Club Heaven will be the site for Randy Rowland's third annual "Singing for AIDS" event on Sunday, December 15. The community Christmas Chorus has grown to 50 gays, lesbians, and gay-friendly North Bay residents, and the event is catching on as a popular function to attend during the holiday season, Rowland said.

"Singing for AIDS" is a benefit for Food for Thought and the Center for HIV Prevention and Care in Sonoma County. The evening will begin with a pre-concert cocktail party, followed by the

concert and dancing. Rowland, the chorus director, emphasized that "Singing for AIDS" is "not to be thought of as a downer event."

There will be a traditional memorial Christmas tree, with Christmas ornaments specially designed to hold the name of a person who has died of AIDS. Family and friends who attend will be able to write the name of someone they want to remember and hang it on the tree. At the end of the concert they can retrieve the ornament to take home for their own personal trees, Rowland said.

Another burgeoning tradition is the video memorial. Each year, new faces are added and appear on the screen for all to see, Row-

land said. Music is chosen to reflect upon these people, and the showing of the video becomes a magical moment at the event.

Rowland pointed out the holiday season can be one of the toughest times of the year for some people, and encouraged everyone to come to the event. ▼

The cocktail party starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by the concert at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 or \$25 reserved. PWAs receive a 50 percent discount. Club Heaven is located at 120 5th Street in Santa Rosa. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (707) 544-6653.

## Gay raid

◀ page 1

that police raided the event because officers erroneously believed the party was illegal and that alcohol was being sold without a permit.

The case angered many in San Francisco's gay and lesbian community, who considered the conduct of some officers to be homophobic.

The proposed agreement, which must be approved by the Board of Supervisors, includes \$56,000 to the seven plaintiffs, plus \$91,956 for their attorney's fees, and broad measures to improve police procedure and accountability.

Included in the proposed settlement are requests for the Police Department to ensure that officers undergo sensitivity training on homosexual and HIV issues, and that it create a program that documents

arrests for obstructing officers.

"We began these negotiations by trying to address the concerns of the plaintiffs rather than just the purely economic issues," Patrick Mahoney, chief trial deputy of the City Attorney's Office, said after the decision.

Clarence said that while her clients were satisfied with the cash settlement, they "remain bitter about the discipline" meted out to officers found guilty of misconduct during the event.

Police Sergeant John Haggett was ordered terminated by the San Francisco Police Commission for serious misconduct, including the arresting of several complainants without cause.

The termination was held in abeyance for three years, and Haggett, who has two decorations for bravery, was ordered suspended for six months and must seek psychological counseling before he returns to his post. He is currently the subject of a \$10 million

suit in another case.

Sergeant Steve Bosshard was ordered suspended for five days after the commission found him guilty of making a sexual slur against a complainant.

Bosshard had lifted the skirt of a cross-dressed man while arresting him. After exposing the complainant's buttocks, Bosshard claimed that he was trying to diffuse the unintentional incident with a quip, but the commission ruled the act an intentional slur.

Two other officers were cleared of misconduct, due to lack of evidence.

Although the legal action has been settled, Clarence told the Bay Area Reporter that she and other civil rights attorneys remain concerned about the problem of police misconduct.

"This is a happy ending, which is not often the case. I get calls from about 12 people a day who are roughed up by the cops," she said. ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# CBC to reopen in Jan.

by Cynthia Laird

**D**ennis Peron, founder of the San Francisco Cannabis Buyers Club (CBC) that was raided by state agents August 4, has said that the club will reopen January 15, and that he has already signed contracts with Mendocino and Humboldt County marijuana growers to provide the pot under a co-op agreement.

However, Peron pointed out that when the club reopens next month, he will not be running it. A consortium of people, some with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other illnesses, will serve as a board of directors for the operation, which will be run out of the CBC's 1444 Market Street location.

"I'll be the director emeritus," said Peron.

Peron and five other CBC

members were charged in October with several felonies relating to marijuana sales. They face trial in Alameda County on the charges and remain free on their own recognizance. Five of the defendants pleaded morally not guilty to the charges, and the sixth pleaded not guilty.

The next court appearance for all of the defendants is Tuesday, December 17, when a hearing will be held to consider a change of venue that would move the case to San Francisco. The state Attorney General's office is prosecuting the case.

Peron said he would be going to civil court before the club reopens to overturn a Superior Court Judge's injunction ordering the club closed.

"We're getting the injunction modified to conform with the new law," Peron said, referring to

state Proposition 215. Voters approved the initiative last month, which he co-authored, exempting doctors and their patients from certain provisions of state marijuana laws for purposes of medical treatment.

The ballot measure also permits patients with "written or oral recommendation" to "possess or cultivate" marijuana for the treatment of AIDS, cancer or "other illnesses for which marijuana provides relief."

## Tillers for the team?

Peron said close to a dozen growers who cultivate the pot outdoors have signed up so far to supply cannabis to the club, which he said would lower prices for patients.

"I've signed contracts with about ten growers so far," Peron told the B.A.R., adding that he has talked to the Mendocino County District Attorney's office regarding the co-op plans.

"They weren't too happy," he acknowledged.

Mendocino County District Attorney Susan Massini told the B.A.R. that "if people grow and sell marijuana in Mendocino County, they'll be prosecuted."

"In my opinion, Proposition 215 does not make clear people can grow marijuana and sell it," Massini said in an interview.

Massini said that she has not personally spoken to Peron regarding his plans and signed contracts.

The newly-reopened CBC is expected to sign people up between January 15-22, Peron said, and the medical marijuana would be sold after that. ▼

## ACT UP/DC introduces marijuana, needle initiatives

by Mike Salinas

**S**eizing upon successful 1996 ballot measures that legalized medical marijuana use for certain disease sufferers in California and Arizona, ACT UP/Washington DC has filed papers with the Board of Elections and Ethics for a similar ballot initiative there.

The activists also filed an initiative with the DC BEE to amend the district's drug laws to eliminate criminal penalties for the possession of needles.

ACT UP spokesperson Steve Michael said the AIDS activist group filed the papers for the proposed "Compassionate Use of Marijuana for Medical Purposes Act" Thursday, December 5. ACT UP members are enlisting the support of other patient advocacy groups to circulate petitions and gather the necessary signatures within the six-month period, a process that will begin as soon as the BEE approves the initiative's language.

Michael said announcements recently made by Councilmember Charlene Drew Jarvis and US At-

torney Eric Holder, that they intend to increase penalties for marijuana possession and sale, underscore the need for the initiative. "We need to move forward on this issue now, before Jarvis and Holder make felons out of the terminally ill," said Michael, who is HIV-positive.

The initiative is designed to help people with glaucoma, cancer, multiple sclerosis, and HIV/AIDS, who use marijuana to ease pain and swelling, increase appetite, or fight nausea associated with chemotherapy. Michael said it is particularly important to ensure people with HIV are not jailed for pot use, since the DC Corrections system is notoriously lax in treating those people: one incarcerated PWA who died in 1994 spent his last week neglected and chained to a wheelchair.

"Sixteen years into the AIDS epidemic, we have only a handful of approved, but often toxic treatments for AIDS patients," Michael said. "We should not make criminals out of sick and dying people who are simply trying to improve the quality and quantity of their lives." ▼

## Holiday concert to benefit Children's Hospital pediatric AIDS program

by Cynthia Laird

**T**he Chapel of the Chimes will present its annual Holiday Benefit Concert this Sunday, December 15 in Oakland. The musical program will benefit the pediatric HIV/AIDS program at Children's Hospital, Oakland.

The free concert, a tradition in Oakland, will feature Bay Area performing artists of international renown, including baritone Macatee Hollie, lyric soprano Charmagne Belle, the San Francisco Girls Chorus, the Lighthouse Singers, the Prince Charles Pipe Band, Terry Hilliard and Combo, Arnetta and Larry Bartlow, dancer Traci Bartlow, Sound Wave Ensemble, the Chancel Choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, and others.

An open house and pre-concert reception in the Chapel of the Chimes, a historical landmark designed by architect Julia Morgan, will be held before the program. ▼

The open house starts at 3 p.m., and the concert begins at 4 p.m. Chapel of the Chimes is located at 4499 Piedmont Avenue in Oakland. Donations to the pediatric HIV/AIDS program at Children's Hospital will be accepted.

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Participation involves receiving educational information and possibly weekly group psychotherapy, as well as completing 4 interviews over 1 year, earning \$100 in total.  
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**(415) 607-1850**

## HIVCare Current Trials

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Phase II of an antiviral which targets the lymph nodes and which works in a different way than any of those approved. Additional spaces now available.

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**Sher Vieira at 415-353-6215.**

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HIVCare is a member of the AmFAR Community Based Clinical Trials Network



# Shop for a life

by Gym Provenzano

One of my ex-roommates used to beat off to the Soloflex show. Remember Scott Madsen? What happened to him? Remember the homoerotic half-hour infomercial, watching a guy work out in his spacious condo/loft? Why do we consider him beautiful? But more important, why do some people try to become that beautiful?

In lieu of starting up the look-sist debate and thereby incurring the wrath of Tom Bianchi "In Defense of Bootie" devotees, I hope to give readers a few notions before purchasing their next gym

membership.

First of all, the Nordic Ab Flab home models are out. You know they don't work. Does anyone still have workout machines in their home? The last one I saw at a friend's apartment had laundry hanging off it, so at least it served a purpose.

Part of the idea of working out, particularly in those gender-segregated athletic arenas known as "gay gyms," along with working on your body, is about getting out of the house and showing off your body. True, it pays to follow the rule of not dating among a pool of folks whom you'll have to face three or four times a week, whether you hit it off or not. But

I don't let that bother me, because most guys snub me as if I've already been a lousy date anyway, particularly short, mustached ones named Tony.

Since this is the time of year where we're all supposed to make new year's resolutions, let's explore the idea of going back to the gym. Not that I'm going to,

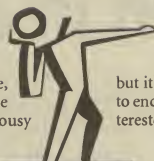
but it's sort of my obligation to encourage those of you interested in such endeavors.

What I don't like about those machines, aside from the fact that they make my body hurt, is that machine workouts are

two-dimensional. They only go back and forth, up and down, etc. In the realm of full-body move-

morph generally coexist, if not in the same bars, beds, or zip codes, at least in the same culture.

The best or worst thing about gay gyms, depending on your viewpoints or standards, is that the sexuality of working out is up front. Certain gyms have a bit of a reputation. I can't think of a gym that didn't have sexual activity. Back in my Ohio State days, we had two steam rooms to choose



Sports Complex



Feel the burn: Working out on those gym contraptions can be torture.

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Photo: Robb Williams

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ment in most sports, except the likes of rowing, you use your body in all directions.

Granted, working out is good for you, physically as well as psychologically, particularly if you're one of those people who likes to be judged by the size of your titties. If you like guys with lopsided bodies of the Mae West sort, then by all means, go for it. Pump yourself silly, particularly if you're a nipple freak. I've never been able to grasp why those two non-milking circular inches of flesh are so crucial to some gay men's sexual excitement. I suppose building a pile of muscle underneath it supplements presentation, but I'm a bit more interested in the rest of the body, the body as a whole. When it comes to amorous technique, many large muscular types tend to be more like sofas. You can bounce on 'em, poke 'em, and grab 'em, but mostly they're so thick they lose any flexibility.

For instance, a body-building type I had the pleasure of colliding with recently came to wrestling practice. He outweighed me by about 20 pounds; huge arms, big pecs, and a great smile. None of that helped him once we got on the mat, because he had absolutely no center. He didn't know where his weight was, which I found puzzling. He spent all that time working on his body and still failed to find himself in space, or how to use all that muscle for anything other than aesthetic purposes.

Not that I don't appreciate the Colt aesthetic. I just don't find it functional. Bigger is not necessarily better, as any extinct brontosaurus can attest. One terrific thing about San Francisco culture is the diversity of body types, from burly bears to lanky skate punks. Meso-, Endo-, and Ecto-

from, and a plethora of out-of-the-way places for such pleasures. It was a veritable mall of cruisability. Who knows, maybe it still is.

The sexuality of San Francisco gyms is different when you're walking around with a bunch of extras from a Falcon video. Talk about inferiority complex! But if you're just going for the workout, you might want to consider a gym where that stuff doesn't go on, or at least there's a beeper check at the door. A number of our advertisers are having New Year's specials, so go for it. Don't expect to find me, though, strapping myself to some instrument of torture, at least not until it gets closer to Gay Games and I have to work out for a reason other than attracting dates whom I shouldn't attract since they're just judging me by the size and shape of my body. Sure, I won't be going shirtless at the next street fair, but hey, we all make sacrifices in life. My motto is usually, "No pain, no pain."

Of course, working out properly, you can avoid the bad pain, but the good pain is inevitable. It's part of the ripping and tearing of muscles that makes them build up. And yet, there's that nagging reality that if you don't continue doing those boring movements with those tedious machines, your body will revert to saved, i.e., return to its normal state. "If you don't use it, you lose it," someone said.

Continuing to work out absorbs all the energy of doing the work-outs, of eating the protein powders, of crunches and pulls, etc. All that matter/muscle builds up in you and you get toned, or stacked, built, buff, depending on how far you take it. Matter, after all, is merely energy slowed down. Maybe that's what's sexy about muscle, the energy it contains. ▼

For most,  
Time is  
Money.

For those  
with HIV,  
Money  
is Time.



## HEALTH RESOURCES

## COMMUNITY HEALTH LISTINGS

Send health resource listings to:

Roberto Friedman  
Community Health  
Bay Area Reporter  
395 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

## ACT UP/SF

Does not accept drug company donations, committed to direct action. Contact: 1388 Haight, #218, SF 94117. 522-2907.

## Acupuncture

The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

## AIDS Benefits Counselors

Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

**AIDS Community Research Consortium**  
Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

## AIDS Dementia CARE Unit

At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impairments. Call Stephen Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

## AIDS Emergency Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

## AIDS Health Project

Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

## AIDS/HIV Nightline

Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

## AIDS Memorial Grove

Monthly workshops: wedding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

## AIDS-Related Vision

**Loss Support Group**  
Meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 294 or 215.

## AIDS Support Group

2+ years since diagnosis. No charge, fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1pm. Call Gail Winston for intake: 552-7517.

## AIDS Treatment Education Network

Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strategies. 284-6237.

## Alternative Family Project

Offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 566-5683.

## Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

## Baylands Family Circle

Non-profit group of families headed by gay, lesbian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for social. Call Tom, 858-2468.

## Bereavement Groups

For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

## Boy + Boy

Actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT x80Y.

## Brothers Network

Support services for the gay, bisexual and transgender African-American community. 973 Market, Suite #650. Call for groups and schedule: 356-8140.

## Buddhist AIDS Project

Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

## Catholic Charities

Residential and direct HIV services include Guerrero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814 Mission. 281-1200.

## Chemically Sensitive &amp; HIV

Support group forming for those allergic to perfumes and chemicals. 922-1348.

## Clinica Esperanza

The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

## Coming out support group for women

Meets Wed., 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynne, 626-7000.

## Coming out support group for men

Meets Wed., 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, Ph.D.. Info: 626-7000.

**Community United Against Violence**  
Provides training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

**Comprehensive Outreach Project for Asian Substance Abusers**  
Provides training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

## Connections

Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support focusing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of color. Info: 356-8114.

## Continuum HIV Day Services

An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, activities. 241-5500.

## Davies Med. Center

Free classes for HIV+ people in needpoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

## Deaf AIDS Center

At UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Intertwining services and assisting devices on loan. 476-1600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

## Diabetics

Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the East Bay. Info: 865-2933.

## DNCC Treatment Support Group

Monthly meeting, DNCC distribution. Info: 954-8896.

## Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

## Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services

Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

## Eureka Acupuncture &amp; Yoga Center

Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

## FABRIC

A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

## Friends

A new group for gay and bisexual men, meets alternating Tuesdays, 7:30pm at Pride Center, 200 5th St., Santa Rosa. (707) 524-7373.

## Galemas

Service organization supporting gay and lesbian employees of Pacific Bell. Membership info: call 747-9880.

## Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service

Seeks gay-sensitive law students as volunteer law clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

## Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation

Offers activities for players of all abilities, membership mths. monthly. Info: Donna at 282-2453 or e-mail dmckins@aol.

## Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic

Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

## Gay Young Spirit

A new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

## G40+ Club

A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

## Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project

Free, confidential HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12-4pm. Case management, support groups, AIDS prevention and education, 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

## Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox

Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. 529 Clayton. Hector, 565-1909.

## Healing Alternatives Foundation

Maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products, open Tues.-Sat. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

## Healing Circle

Community and emotional support for anyone facing life challenges, HIV, cancer. Thursdays, 7pm. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. 469-9950.

## Health Support Services

For PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Mann Treatment Center, 1466 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

## Hepatitis "B" Testing

And vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

## HIV Advocacy Network

Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

## HIV/AIDS Group

Emotional and spiritual support group sponsored by the Center for Attitudinal Healing and Kairos House. Mondays, 7pm. 2128 15th St. Call 331-6161, x106.

## HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf

Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199, 1853 Market St.

## HIV and African-American

Gay/Bisexual Men  
Support groups every Wed., 6:30-9pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

## HIV Care

Offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

## HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group

In the South Bay, meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, 408-293-2747.

## HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group

Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 554-9121.

## HIV Positive Drop-in Group

Free, every Tues., 7pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

## HIV Positive Youth Group

18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

## HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

## Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs

Provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.: 368-9989.

## Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

## INVENTION

Sponsors support groups for HIV negative men. Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785.

## Iris Center

Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

**Istituto Laboral de la Raza**  
Helps low income and unemployed workers with labor issues, union organizing, family support. 431-7522.

**Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project**  
Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

**Laguna Honda Hospital AIDS Unit**  
Provides compassionate care to PWAs who are SF residents in need of 24-hour nursing care. Call 664-1580.

**Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE)**  
Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender youth. 565-7681.

**Legal Services for Children's H.O.P.E. Project**  
Provides social and legal services to low-income HIV affected families. Info: 863-3762.

**Lesbian Social Group**  
For lesbians and bisexual women in Tri-Cities/So. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at The Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. 790-2887.

**Linea de Ambiente**  
Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

**Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center**  
Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

**LYRIC's After School**  
Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 3-5pm, M-F, 123 Collingwood. 703-6150.

**Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics**  
STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

**Martin De Porres House of Hospitality**  
Needs volunteers to work in soup kitchen, breakfast and lunch. 225 Potrero. 552-0240.

**Men Overcoming Sexual Assault**  
Operates sexual assault hotline for men, Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

**MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group**  
Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

**MWM**  
A rag group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Wed. nights, 6:30pm, Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-0946.

**Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group**  
Needs help assembling Xmas packages. Monday, Dec. 16, 6pm, Church basement, 100 Diamond. Call Harry, 647-7117.

**New Leaf transgender substance abuse group**  
Mondays 4-5:30pm. Contact Fred Barrios, 626-7000 x146.

**New Leaf**  
Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

## OUTline

Free HIV info and support using Windows or Macintosh graphic interface. Info: 554-0555 or Info@out.org

## Pacific Center

Gay and bisexual men's HIV/AIDS support group, Weds., 7pm, 1250 Pine St. #301, Walnut Creek. (510) 937-7711.

## Paradigm

Models for Enhancing Life Near Death, serves the terminally ill, free 10-week support group in SF. Call for info: 522-9192.

## Plantfree Health Resource Center

Up-to-date medical info to assist in making informed health choices. Extensive consumer health library, current medical lit clippings & health bookstore. Also support groups, health information service by mail. 2040 Webster St. 923-3680.

## Positive Humanists and Friends Club

Focus on self-acceptance, promoting belief in long-term survival. Info: 285-0606.

## Positive Living for Us

Free weekend seminar for recently-tested HIV+. Info: Alfreido, 356-8129.

## Positive Resource

Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity presentation mtg call 928-1448.

## Pride &amp; Prejudice

A welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

## Project HOPE

Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

## Project Open Hand

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

## Proyecto Contradisa Por Vida

Provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

## Q Action

Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

## Qi Gong for Health

\$1 per class. Mon., Wed., 5:30pm. 50 Oak St., 3rd fl. 255-0265.

## Quan Yin Healing Arts Center

Acupuncture, Chinese herbal therapies, massage for those with HIV, hepatitis, PMS, menopause or high stress. Mon.-Sat. 1748 Market. 861-4964.

## Radical Women

Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

## SCA

Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets every Mon. at 8pm, 2128 15th St. 864-7230.

## Senior Central

Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors, free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 737-3233.

## Shanti Project's Latino Program

Specifically serves Latino men, women, adolescents and children infected with and affected by HIV. Provides help with emotional peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE.

## Southern Alameda HIV Services

Tri-City Health Center provides comprehensive HIV services, with offices in Fremont and Hayward. (510) 773-6670 and 727-9233, respectively. Spanish and Tagalog spoken.

## Stanford GALA

Gay, lesbian, bisexual alumni/club of Stanford Univ. Info: 723-9036.

## St. Francis Senior Center

Invites seniors to weekly gatherings, Wed. 10am-2pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 621-2655.

## LEGAL NOTICES

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209146

The following person(s) are doing business as PLACEMENT PROS, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108: NBSG III, Inc., (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 6, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209305

The following person(s) are doing business as CARLSON ENTERPRISES, 501 Octavia St., Suite 11, San Francisco, CA 94102: David L. Carlson, 501 Octavia St., Apt. #11, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 13, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed David L. Carlson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 13, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209332

The following person(s) are doing business as MEGAQUEST, 1458 26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122: Marian Laffan, 1458 26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Marian Laffan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 13, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208899

The following person(s) are doing business as INCENTIVES TO INTRIGUE, 652 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Jim Skiba, 652 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jim Skiba. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 28, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGAL NOTICES

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209433

The following person(s) are doing business as BAY IMPORTS, 2210 Stockton St., Suite 212, San Francisco, CA 94133: Rajesh Chandra, 2210 Stockton St., Suite 212, San Francisco, CA 94133. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rajesh Chandra. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 18, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec



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## THE RIVER RIDGE HOUSE

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**WARM WOOD INTERIOR**  
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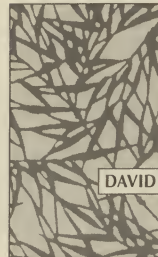
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See the river and distant Mt. Diablo from the hot tub & pool in the private and secluded Redwood decks off the master suite. 3BR, 3BA, \$179,800. Agent Tony 800-327-4664 Calaveras County

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## COUNSELING



## Positive Men Together

Gay Men's HIV Psychotherapy Group

DAVID JULL-JOHNSON, PHD

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## LEGAL NOTICES

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209358

The following person(s) are doing business as GALICIA RESTAURANT/POMAIRE EMPANADA HOUSE: 635 Clay, San Francisco, CA 94111: Reinaldo E. Ramirez, 55 W. Fifth Ave. #12, E. San Mateo, CA 94402: Julio Baltar, 4421 Pembroke Dr., Concord, CA 94521. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Reinaldo E. Ramirez. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 14, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209378

The following person(s) are doing business as LEMON TREE PRODUCTION, 3237 Rivera St., San Francisco, CA 94116: Lee, Wai Shun, 3237 Rivera St., San Francisco, CA 94116: Chu, William Kwong-Hung, 1838 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA 94109: Cheung, Eric K.Y., 1587 28th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 1, 1996. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Lee, Wai Shun. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208573

The following person(s) are doing business as SS HIRO, INC., 656 9th Ave. #A, San Francisco, CA 94118: SS Hiro, Inc. (CA), 656 9th Ave. #A, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 15, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed President Satoru Hirokawa. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 15, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209385

The following person(s) are doing business as FIESTA MERCENARIES, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Chris Ayala, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Charles Zimmerman, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Chris Ayala. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209648

The following person(s) are doing business

as CHAT HOUSE, 139 Eighth St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Catherine Fields, 877 Guerrero St., San Francisco, CA 94110: Maureen McGarry, 241 Hartford St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Catherine Fields. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 27, 1996.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209386

The following person(s) are doing business as 1. HONEYSUCKLE UMBRELLA GROUP 2. HONEYSUCKLE TRANSPORT 3. REFLECTIVE ACCESS 4. EARTH-BOUND EXCURSIONS 5. DYKES 'R' U 6. LESBIAN ACRES 7. HONEYSUCKLE EROTICA 8. HONEYSUCKLE FEMINE SALOON, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Chris Ayala, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 15, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Chris Ayala. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 982713

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL for change of name. The application of CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL, for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to CHRIS DENNIS HANKS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 14th day of January, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 20th day of November, 1996.

Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 1996.

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 982794

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the

matter of the application of CHARLES THOMAS BREWER for change of name. The application of CHARLES THOMAS BREWER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that CHARLES THOMAS BREWER has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to JACKSON BREWER-LOPEZ. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 6th day of January, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 25th day of November, 1996.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209512

The following person(s) are doing business as JUDNICK, 2888 San Bruno Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134: HGE & Beverage Services LLC (CA), 2 Chester, Daly City, CA 94014. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed Horace Diamond. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 20, 1996.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 194639

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as THE PARK "N" SPOT, 634 Funston Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on April 5, 1995. Name and Address of registrant: JOHN WOO, 634 Funston Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118. ROBERT TAM, 138 Vienna St., San Francisco, CA 94112. JOHN TAM, 368 Winding Way, San Francisco, CA 94122. This business was conducted by a general partnership. Signed: JOHN WOO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date December 02, 1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209153

The following person(s) are doing business as ERIN TRUCKING, 839 Santiago St., San Francisco, CA 94116: John Thomas Kehoe, 839 Santiago St., San Francisco, CA 94116. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 6, 1996.

## LEGAL NOTICES

This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John Kehoe. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 06, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209886

The following person(s) are doing business as SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE RENTALS, 791 Atherton Ave., Novato, CA 94945: Stewart MacGregor Kerr, 791 Atherton Ave., Novato, CA 94945: Conrad Hanns, 791 Atherton Ave., Novato, CA 94945. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Stewart M Kerr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 5, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209730

The following person(s) are doing business as JOHN'S ORGANICS, 2822 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123: John VanSicklen Maack II, 2822 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of December 12, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John VanSicklen Maack II. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 02, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209835

The following person(s) are doing business

as ACE PRINTING & GRAPHICS, 987 Haight St., Suite 6, San Francisco, CA 94117: Peter Christopher Kirsch, 987 Haight St., Suite 6, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of December 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter Kirsch. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 6, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209698

The following person(s) are doing business as I. A.R. MARTIN ENT. 2. A.R.M. SALES, 775 Post St., Ste #100, San Francisco, CA 94109: Arnold R. Martin, 775 Post St., Ste #100, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Arnold R. Martin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 02, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209713

The following person(s) are doing business as VIBRANTLY YOURS, 166 Geary St. #200, San Francisco, CA 94108: Vera Walker, 16298 Foothill Blvd. #1, San Leandro, CA 94578. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of December 4, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Vera Walker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 02, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.



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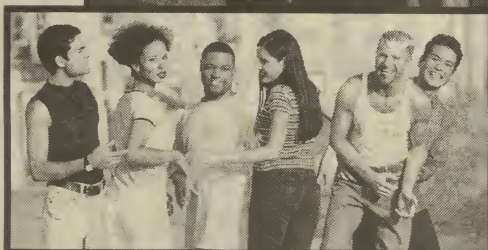
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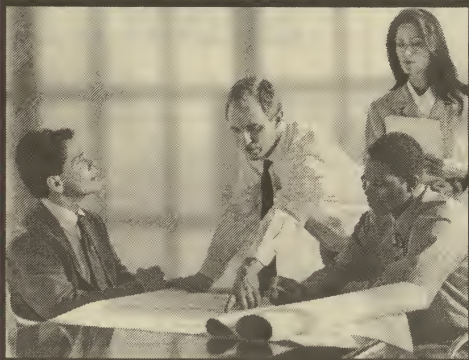
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OCTOBER 1996



John Waters discusses the magic of Christmas, the glory of Divine, and the meaning of life in A Jon Waters Xmas. **page 40**

Dorothy Allison's Bastard Out of Carolina comes to Showtime. **page 42**



Robin Sutherland's Goldberg Variations gets a Grammy nom. **page 47**



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 50 • 12 December 1996

## AGAINST ALL ODDS

by Adam Kelley

**After recreating himself, any job is a cinch for Center for the Arts' new head honcho, John Killacky**

Clowning around: John Killacky sits underneath the antique phrenology machine, one of many exhibits in the "Quackery" portion of Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens' Hall of Fame exhibit.



Marc Geller

**W**hen the Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens needed a new executive director last summer, John Killacky seemed like the perfect candidate. His professional credentials — eight years as performance arts curator at Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, plus shorter stints writing grants at The Pew Charitable Trusts in Philadelphia and managing the PepsiCo Summerfare 1986 Art Festival — were impeccable; his personal experience with ballet and short film made him a liberal institution's wet dream. There was only one small problem.

"The headhunter called me and asked if I was interested in the job," recalls Killacky, 44. "I said, 'I don't know if you know this or not, but I'm totally paralyzed.' And the headhunter went, 'Oh. Oh my God.'"

He laughs about it now, but it wasn't very funny at the time. Only six weeks before, the Chicago native had undergone what was supposed to be routine surgery to remove a benign tumor from his spinal cord — and woke up quadriplegic. It was, he says, his worst fear come to life.

"I knew it was risky surgery, but I didn't have an option

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SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS





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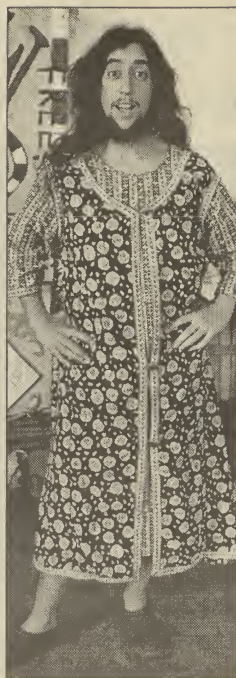


## OUT THERE

by Pithy Galore

Our friends at the "gonzo Jewish national" quarterly DAVKA are smarting after a St. Louis publisher — Ovid Bell Publishers — refused to print their special Hanukkah issue. According to Alan Kaufman, DAVKA's editor and publisher, Ovid Bell's president, John Bell, rejected the issue because it "violated his company's religious principles" and was "obscene and pornographic" to boot. When pressed for details, Bell wouldn't elaborate, says Kaufman, and when asked which set of religious principles the publication was offending, his inquiry got him nowhere. One thing was made very clear though, said Kaufman: "These weren't Orthodox Jews overreacting, because when I asked if there were Jews there who didn't like the publication, I was told very proudly that 'there is not a single Jew working in this plant.'" Kaufman said Bell was forthcoming on one thing, however: "They didn't like the use of the word 'fuck' in the table of contents."

Who's kidding whom? Since when does anyone in the *fin de siècle* get worked up over expletives? Though they didn't say as much, the folks at Ovid obviously got their panties in a bunch over some of the other material in the issue, which includes: a cover photo of Miss Speculum herself, Annie Sprinkle; an unexpurgated text by Lenny Bruce; a special section focusing on queer Yiddishkeit (leading advocates of Yiddish culture), including Tony Kushner, Sandy Dubowski, Sarah Felder, Alysa Solomon, and theater artist Jennifer Miller; and a feature story on an artist with AIDS, Albert Wynn, whose picture as a 13-year-old boy is superimposed by a more recent one of Wynn's AIDS-ravaged body. "About the most scandalous thing in the



Bearded Lady, Jennifer Miller

issue," says Kaufman, "is a picture of Scarlet Harlot lying naked on her side, no genitals exposed, talking about the Holocaust."

Though Kaufman did eventually find a new publisher for the Hanukkah issue of DAVKA (in Orange County, of all places), it won't hit newsstands until January. However, if you're dying to get your hands on the issue, a limited number will be available at DAVKA's Chalahpalooza, a special dance and performance rave featuring Jennifer Miller, Josh Kornbluth, Charlie Varon, hip-hop artists Marginal Prophets, Charming



Michael Alig

David LaChapelle

Hostess, and others. It all happens Thursday, December 12 (8 p.m.) at Slims, 333 11th St. Tickets are \$15. Call 567-6689 for information.

## New York story

Oscar Wilde once observed that "We're all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars." Alas, these days it seems we're all in the gutter and no one is looking at the stars. At least that's the impression we got of the world after we read last Friday's *New York Times*, which carried a lurid story about Manhattan nightlife entrepreneur Michael Alig's suspected murder of a pathetic club kid, Angel Melendez, following a heated argument about money (a recent article in *Details* said it was about money and drugs). Melendez was considered merely missing until his butchered corpse washed up near Staten Island last April. Police became suspicious of Alig when the befogged promoter began boasting to friends of his special way with a hatchet.

We were quite frightened by this morbid little tale, mostly because Miss Alig sounds a lot like some of our best friends. Check it out: According to the *Times*'s description of Alig, she sends out outrageous invitations to parties that show her "head smashed open"; she came from a small town where she was treated as an outcast because of her homosexuality; she feeds off the needs of desperate wannabes who confuse bar trash with glamour; she is known to take or deal recreational drugs; has had interactions with Lady Bunny; knows corrupt people; and has finagled her way onto television talk shows and into newspapers and magazines. Sounds to us like a cross between a certain SF club kid rag publisher we once knew and a friend of ours who's obsessed with clowns, among many others.

As ubiquitous as he may be, we think Michael Alig's life story is unique enough to make a great companion piece to a TV movie about fag psycho-killer Andy Crispo. Working title: *Sister Act*.

## Nightcrawlers

Meanwhile in San Francisco, a less gruesome nightlife has been unfolding. Those charming folks from Absolut Vodka put on a big bash last Thursday at Enrico's in North Beach, a benefit for Mercury House Publishing. Fab people of all stripe were on hand to enjoy the high-cholesterol spread, which included everything from salmon brochettes and fried calamari to steak tartare and gourmet pizza. The official drink of the evening was one of our favorites, the Cosmopolitan. The event was hosted by the worldly-wise Ann Magnuson, who wore an Advent

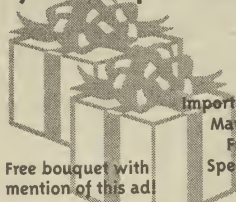
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# Santa Waters

Prince of Puke brings Yuletide sneer to SF with 'A John Waters Xmas'

by John Blanco

Watching Judy Garland sing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" to a moist-eyed Margaret O'Brien in *Meet Me in Saint Louis* is enough to fill some people with the holiday spirit. For others, it's Jimmy Stewart joyfully sprinting down the streets of Bedford Falls at the end of *It's a Wonderful Life*. But for me, the movie moment that inspires the most Yuletide cheer is when Divine, in a fit of cha-cha heels-deprived rage, topples the Christmas tree over on her mother in John Waters' *Female Trouble*.

Local filmmaker/producer Marc Huestis also considers *Female Trouble* a holiday classic. In honor of the 1974 film and its esteemed director, Huestis has organized "A Jon Waters Xmas," which takes place December 13 at the Castro Theatre. In addition to a screening of *Female Trouble*, this gala event includes a glamorous cha-cha heels contest (to be judged by a celebrity guest) and an onstage chat with Waters himself.

I spoke recently with Waters about his unhealthy obsession with the holly-jolly time of the year, among other things, via telephone from his home in Baltimore.

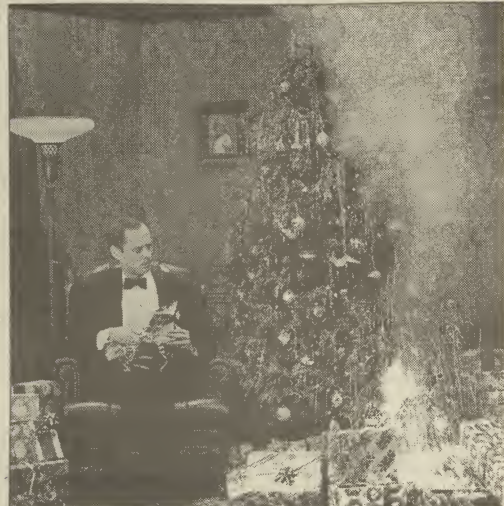
Anyone who's read the "Why I Love Christmas" essay in your book *Crackpot* knows that you revel in the holiday season with the cynicism-free joy of a kid.

I do. I think if you're not happy at Christmas you should really just kill yourself. I always have fun at Christmas. I love all the pre-holiday activities. I like to think of them as the foreplay of Christmas. I've made my own Christmas cards for about 25 years. I've had a Christmas party [every year] since I've had an apartment, which would be since 1965. I really get into it.

What you love about Christmas, the consumerism and the tackiness, seem to be the things Martha Stewart would hate about it.

Not at all. I think Martha Stewart and I are exactly alike when it comes to Christmas. I like it and she likes it. I don't like it with irony. The really tacky parts of Christmas I don't like. I don't think my house looks tacky at Christmas.

That's disillusioning. I pictured you at home trimming a flocked artificial Christmas tree and listening to a CD of Kathi Lee Gifford Christmas carols.



"I used to decorate the electric chair. I'd put one leg of it in water."

No, I'm not a fan of hers. I'd rather listen to the Barking Dogs' Christmas carols. I have always secretly liked those white-flocked fake trees, the ones that are almost blue. But I don't have one. I don't even have a Christmas tree. I never have. I used to decorate the

electric chair I have in my house. I even used to put one leg of it in a Christmas tree stand with water.

Is it true that a Christmas tree once fell over on your Grandmother, just like in the scene from *Female Trouble*?

Yes, but it wasn't just like the scene in *Female Trouble*. No one pushed the tree over on her, and she wasn't hurt. I actually didn't see it happen. I just heard about it from my parents. I remember when they told me as a kid, the first thing I thought was, "Are the presents okay?"

In *Female Trouble* Divine wants cha-cha heels for Christmas, and is horrified when she receives a pair of sensible shoes instead. Did you have any similar experiences with Christmas presents from your parents?

Oh, yeah. There were times when I've asked for things, and they purposely got the wrong version of it, which is worse than not getting it at all. I'm talking about when I was younger, not so much now. It always happened with clothes. They always gave me clothes that they wished I'd wear, and nobody wears clothes your parents wished you'd wear.

Is *Female Trouble* still your favorite of the films you've made?

Of my older films, it certainly is. I think it's the ultimate vehicle for Divine. She got to play a character from a teenager to her death many years later. And it's also the first movie I did with the "crime is beauty" theme, which has certainly recurred in many of my films since.

Do you have a least favorite?

There are moments in all of my films that I like, and there are moments in all of them that I wish I could change. I think Barbra Streisand is the only director who doesn't feel that way. *Mondo Trasho* may be my least favorite, because it's about 90 minutes long and there's really only a good 20 minutes in it. But I really do have a fondness for all of my films. The cliché is that a director's films are his children. Well, if that's the

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## PHOTOGRAPHY

### Tantalizing trio



by Patrick D. Hoctel

Three by Howard Roffman; Bruno Gmünder, \$39.95

Photographer Howard Roffman's latest book, *Three*, follows closely on the heels of last year's debut effort, *The Edge of Desire* (also published by Bruno Gmünder). This work, however, marks a departure from Roffman's well-received previous collection.

Rather than featuring many comely young models posed in various states of *deshabille* against myriad backdrops, *Three* concentrates instead, as the chapter headings indicate, on "John & Gary," "Kris" and, finally, "John & Gary & Kris." What we have here is yet another case of art imitating life: Roffman's original models, John and Gary, became a *ménage à trois* with a later model, Kris—a development that in these pages becomes a photographic essay on the relationship changes in these very appealing men's lives.

These photos offer a more intimate look at Roffman's subjects than *The Edge of Desire*, and range from cozy domestic scenes, such as decorating a cake, to ones of a decidedly more sexual nature. Occasionally, the images seem a bit posed and too cutesy (like the one of the three "sleeping" in spoon position and a couple of shots of them in their long johns); one craves a little salt to cut the sugar.

But for the most part these pictures give the viewer the illusion of visually eavesdropping on this loving, playful trio. As always, Roffman's photos are well-shot and produced. However, he has now gone beyond mere proficient photography to deliver a book that evidences new depth and feeling in his work. Hopefully, *Three* is a sign of similar things to come. ▼



# Hyper-realism

by Gary Morris

I saw John Waters' masterpiece *Female Trouble* during its first run in Los Angeles in 1975. Afterward, I argued with some of the people I'd watched it with, who insisted it was mere "mindless garbage." I was surprised and disgusted that they didn't "get" the film, that they couldn't see that Waters was documenting a fascinating subculture — deviant urban white trash — that had little cultural visibility. But that was the problem — my friends were mostly straight and middle-class and couldn't accept the film's gaudy tramps, criminal queens, and deranged fag hags. These characters, along with the film's trashy environments, were rejected as unrealistic.

Of course, *Female Trouble* is not "realistic" in the literal sense of the word. It's doubtful that even a hefty "glamour queen" like Dawn Davenport (Divine) could really chop off the "scrawny paw" of the fag hag Ida (Edith Massey) and put her in a bird cage for the amusement of Dawn's lunatic teenage daughter, Taffy (Mink Stole). Still, in the midst of the film's multiple outrages — Dawn's alarming "I blew Richard Speck speech," her disfigurement

at the hands of Ida — is a letter-perfect description of the white trash ethos.

Waters' command of the dialogue that accompanies this subculture is unparalleled. When Dawn's husband suggests that Taffy give him a blow job, she screeches, "I wouldn't suck your lousy dick if I was suffocating and there was oxygen in your balls!" Seemingly throwaway lines have a similar resonance. When a manic hairdresser tells one of his customers, a pudgy middle-aged woman, how he wishes he was "a little girl," she replies, "Why don't you throw a penny in the god-damn fountain and make a god-damn wish."

Waters details this world with the amused detachment of an anthropologist. He skewers the absurdly specific rules that parents apply to children during an exchange between Dawn and young Taffy, whose incessant rope-jumping is driving her mother insane: "Taffy, you know I've told you repeatedly not to jump rope within ten feet of me." And the various

characters' ruthless rejection of convention is everywhere apparent, from motherhood ("Thank God I had an abortion!") to high school ("I'm sick of these teachers that don't know one thing. I'm the one who should be teachin'!") to the horrors of heterosexuality ("Queers are just better!").

While even some of Waters' fans consider his work disposable camp trash, consciously made to have "no redeeming social value," this attitude overlooks the film's underlying stubborn validation of the outsider. This is especially true in *Female Trouble*. Like Waters' core gay followers, Dawn refuses to conform to tired convention. And if straight audiences couldn't embrace her acid-tongued high school slut, crazed go-go girl, petty thief, novelty fashion model, and mass murderer, gay viewers could — and still do. ▼

**Female Trouble screens Friday, December 13, at the Castro, following the onstage interview with Jon Waters.**



Taffy, where are you?

Courtesy of Outsider Enterprises

## John Waters

◀ previous page

case, then I've had all juvenile delinquents. Some of them just performed better than others.

What's the status of your latest movie, *Cecil B. Demented*?

Oh, that's not going to happen. Since it's a movie about terrorism against Hollywood studios, I doubt Hollywood would ever make it. I've already thought up a whole new movie. The script is due in January and I hope to make it in the spring. I'm too superstitious to talk about it though. I always said I wouldn't talk about *Cecil B. Demented*, and when I did, it fell through. So now I'm even more superstitious.

Gregg Araki's *Doom Generation* and Bruce LaBruce's *Hustler White* are two recent movies that have the same subversive sexuality, gross-out humor and punk sensibility of your films, but what these directors seem to lack is your gift for crafting engaging and coherent narratives. What do you think about their work?

Oh, I'm a fan of their movies. But I thought that the best part about *Hustler White* was the kind of reaction it got. It got the kind of outraged reviews that *Pink Flamingos* got, which I haven't seen in a long time. You know, with the *New York Times* saying, "This is pornography!" It's great to see a film like that, one that can get a rise out of people. That's this generation's duty — to get on my nerves. ▼

"A Jon Waters Xmas" takes place at the Castro Theatre on December 13 at 7:30 p.m. Partial proceeds benefit Visual AID, which provides funding for artists with life-threatening diseases. For ticket information, call Outsider Enterprises at 863-0611.



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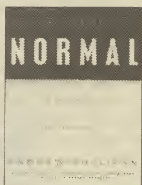
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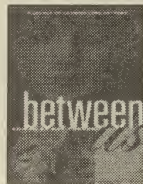
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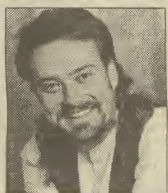
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# Brutally honest

## 'Bastard Out of Carolina' doesn't soften child abuse for public consumption

by Gary Morris

**B**astard Out of Carolina opens with a James Baldwin quote, read over the credits (by Laura Dern): "People pay for what they do ... and still more for what they allow themselves to become. And they pay for it simply, by the lives they lead." Anjelica Huston's wrenching adaptation of Dorothy Allison's highly regarded novel shows the many ways in which people "pay," and, like the book, it offers neither simple solutions nor easy targets.

The story is told from the viewpoint of a grown woman, Bone, recalling her childhood in Greenville, South Carolina in the '50s. Bone's mother is a waitress named Anney Boatwright (Jennifer Jason Leigh), member of a battle-scarred white trash matriarchy, with the important exception of Anney's brother, Earle (Michael Rooker). Other members of this tight-knit group of "wise women" include sisters Ruth (Glenn Headley) and Dee Dee (Christina Ricci), mother Alma (Grace Zabriskie), and Anney's sister-in-law Raylene (Diana Scarwid). Anney tries to give Bone a chance in life by having the word "illegitimate" removed from her birth certificate (her real father was chased out of town by the women in the family), but the little girl remains a pariah and a symbol of Anney's own increasingly limited chances — the "bastard" of the title.

Earle introduces Anney to a co-worker, Glen Waddell (Ron Eldard), whose rich family has no use for him when it's clear he plans to marry one of the "trashy Boatwrights." In spite of the pleas of her family, who realize almost instinctively that Glen is "no good," she moves away from them and thus loses the protections they offer. The bulk of the film is taken up with Anney and Glen's violent downward spiral into poverty and hopelessness, and Bone's impossible place between them — loved but not protected by her mother, raped and abused by her stepfather, who insists she call him "daddy,"



Jena Malone and Jennifer Jason Leigh.

Director Huston's refusal to sugar-coat or cut away from the most squalid details of molestation make this a definitive picture of its subject. Ironically, her honesty almost cost her the film. Originally made for Ted Turner, *Bastard Out of Carolina* so disturbed him he refused to distribute it, and the film remained on the shelf until Showtime picked it up. It would have been easy enough for Huston to follow convention and leave the horror of Bone's dilemma in the mind rather than the eye of the audience, but she obviously wanted to show what actually happens in brutal child abuse cases. Also to her credit, she leaves in the desperate human side of both Anney, who never believes there's a problem until she actually sees her husband raping her daughter, and Glen, who is contextualized as a

cast-off from his own family and a mental wreck, full of chaos and remorse. As despicable as he is, he's a fully realized character, not the evil caricature we might expect to see.

Huston keeps intact Allison's sympathetic portrayal of the constant threats against and small victories of her working-class characters. When the local courthouse — where Anney was refused a "legitimate" birth certificate for her daughter — burns down, the Boatwrights watch and laugh, apparently pleased with the destruction of a soulless institution that refused to treat them with dignity. When Raylene discovers the truth about what's happening to Bone, the family must handle it themselves, without involving the law. The Boatwrights' insular world view is Bone's undoing, as her mother tries to handle the problem herself, and her salvation, as the other members of the family take the place of her tormented mother, who is unable to leave Glen even after she knows what happened.

Fans of Huston's performances will salute her skill in treating a difficult subject that few would take on. She gets consistently fine performances out of her actors, with Jena Malone simply extraordinary as the brooding, watchful, tortured Bone. The film is a brilliant attack not only on child abuse, but indirectly on the mentality of hypocrites like Ted Turner who promote all kinds of violence in the media but don't like to look at, or be linked to, its effects. Turner's rejection of *Bastard Out of Carolina* — and more recently, his campaign against David Cronenberg's *Crash*, allegedly for its images of "sick sex" — shows the pitfalls of allowing philistines to control cultural access. ▼

*Bastard Out of Carolina* airs  
Dec. 15 at 9 p.m. on Showtime.

## TELEVISION

### December 'In the Life' looks at AIDS struggle

**T**he December edition of *In the Life* (KQED-9, Wednesday, December 18, 11 p.m.), hosted by Katherine Linton (pictured), explores the state of AIDS in America — the toll, the challenges, the hopes, and some of the progress made in the past year. John Hatchett, former director of the New York People with AIDS Coalition, looks at the success of protease inhibitors and discusses the cost of the drug and the lack of access many have to it. In another segment, composer John Corigliano discusses his choral work *Of Rage and Remembrance*, which he was inspired to create after viewing the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. Other segments examine the Broadway phenomenon *Rent*; the International Gay Rodeo; the emergence of the transgendered community in America (including an interview with Kate Bornstein, author of *Gender Outlaw*); and much more. The show ends with a look at POWARS: Pet Owners with AIDS Resource Service, an organization of volunteers who help PWAs by providing assistance with their animals. ▼



Ellen McDermott



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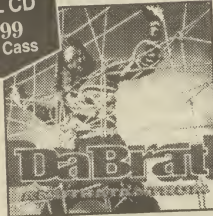
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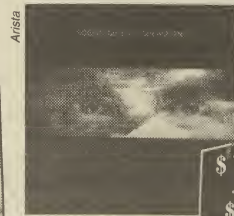
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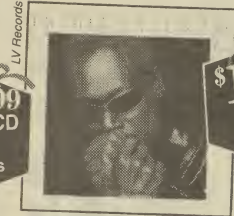
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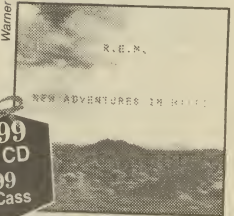
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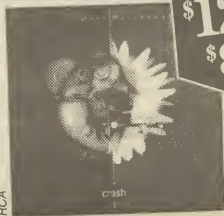
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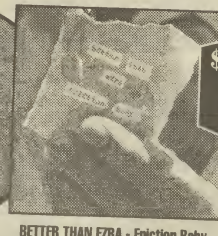
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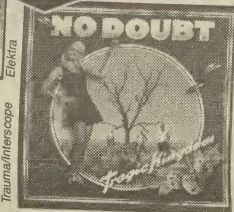


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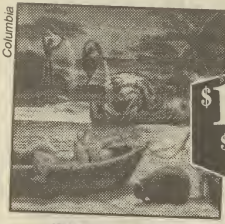
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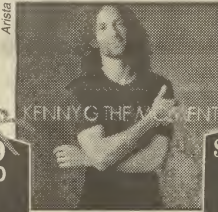
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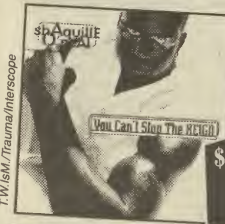
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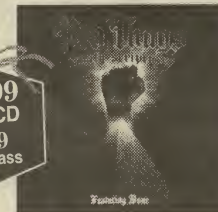
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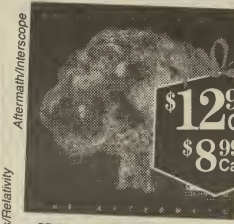
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## From silhouette to center stage: gays in the news

# Media makeover

by Wayne Hoffman

If the news media's coverage of gay and lesbian issues leaves something to be desired, it's worth looking back to see just how far it has come. A mere five years ago, the gay press couldn't attract a single major national advertiser. It's been barely a decade since there were no openly gay journalists writing mainstream print news. It's only 15 years since the

AIDS epidemic was written off as too unimportant to cover by the *New York Times*. Going back further to the days of Anita Bryant, Stonewall and lurid television documentaries where homosexuals appeared only in silhouette, the media's treatment of gay and lesbian America today seems like an amazing transformation.

In *Straight News: Gays, Lesbians, and the News Media* (Columbia University Press, \$29.95), former CNN correspondent Ed-

ward Alwood reflects on the history of gay news coverage, from total silence to sensationalism, stereotyping to more accurate and complex coverage. Optimistic and perhaps sympathetic to a fault regarding the daunting task facing the media, he paints a picture of progress and improvement over a relatively short period — the last 50 years.

Alwood's basic message is that everything has changed. The news media are no longer the adversaries of the gay community — or at least not every outlet, not always. If his point sometimes seems overstated when relatively gay-friendly papers like the *Washington Post* and *New York Times* still share newsstand space with the far more antagonistic *New York Post* and *Washington Times*, it is true that the news media are making serious changes for the better in their coverage of gay issues.

Perhaps the most significant catalyst for change in the media's gay coverage, Alwood asserts, has

been the increasing presence of openly gay and lesbian correspondents in newsrooms. Along with strong community pressure and changing political attitudes, the role of gay reporters behind the scenes is paramount.

Being out in the news media has become far more common over the past few years, thanks in part to organizations like the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association, of which Alwood is a charter member. But the progress of openly gay journalists has been uneven, as a quick glimpse at a NLGJA luncheon roster will attest: far more gay men than lesbians have come out, far more whites than people of color. While this is partly reflective of the demographic makeup of newsrooms in general, its impact means that the progress made in gay coverage has also been uneven; if more gay community sources are quoted and more gay individuals interviewed in news stories, they are still mostly male and white.

### Lagging behind

Another major split lies between print and broadcast journalism. While print news media have made tremendous strides, with openly gay writers from the late Randy Shilts to Deb Price making national headlines, television in particular — especially on-air talent — has lagged far behind.

In part, Alwood says, this is due to the more conservative approach of television, which strives to maintain the least offensive facade. Also, with fewer sponsors and an emphasis on ratings (CNN divides its ratings into half-hour blocks, but the *New York Times* doesn't collect subscription rates based on individual articles each day), the on-air broadcasters are particularly vulnerable to the whims of audiences and advertisers.

Alwood recalls his own stint on Washington's Channel 5 News in the 1970s, when he and a colleague walked into a gay bar.

"When most people go into a gay bar, they're anonymous unless they give their name to someone," he says. "We would walk in the door, and people would know where we worked, our names, how to call us the next day; they could even call our boss, before we'd ever talked to them. It's a very precarious situation."

He is reluctant, however, to pin the blame on television news producers; it's not direct pressure from above that keeps many gay newsmen in the closet, he says, but indirect pressure from within. In fact, he says, the homophobic bias many activists have railed against for years is today overstated, or misunderstood.

### Faulty structure

In the course of his investigations for *Straight News*, Alwood did come across general trends of bias in gay coverage, but he refers to this as "blind bias" as opposed to intentional homophobia. Rather than deliberately slanting stories against gays, the news media simply use methods that tend to favor "experts" and public figures who tend to uphold the status quo in a very conservative fashion; it isn't that the reporters are homophobic, but that the very structure of news collection is tilted against anything out of the mainstream, Alwood explains.

"I think it's more a bias toward the heterosexual community and toward the established ideology than it is against us," he says. "The media has never really grasped the idea that sources have their own ideology, and there are patterns among sources, and there is a responsibility in the sources they choose."

The author is also quick to debunk the notion of "objectivity" in news reporting; he freely admits that every reporter brings personal perspectives to a story. The solution to anti-gay coverage, however, is not cheerleading in favor of the gay community; the goal, he argues, should simply be fairness.

"We can't as a community advocate fairer, impartial coverage on one hand, and then complain about coverage that may not put us in the best light," he says. "Fairness is a goal that can be reached. What's fair is not applying a double standard to gays and lesbians, [but] applying the same types of news values to gays and lesbians that are applied to the broader community." ▼

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## FILM

# Proud flesh

'The Blade' revisits  
'The One-Armed Swordsman'

by Gary Morris

Tsui Hark's most recent film is narrated by, and told largely from the viewpoint of, a woman. In addition to being a rarity in Hong Kong historical action films, this is also misleading. The woman, Siu Ling (Sang Ni), the daughter of a sword manufacturer, is mostly irrelevant, lost like many of the characters in Tsui's dazzling blaze of sweating male flesh, clashing swords, dust, mud, fire, and swirling smoke.

*The Blade* is the director's paean to the muscular, exposed male body and all the ways it can be assaulted — pummeling, whipping, biting, beating, and hacking. A new weapon appears in the form of a lethal bear trap, which is used to "body-mark" the film's two main characters in ways we don't often see in these films. The vicious Fei Lung (Xiong Xinxin) is heavily tattooed, and the heroic Ding On (the gorgeous Zhao When Zhou) is symbolically castrated when his arm is hacked off.

The story is an update of the Shaw Brothers' 1967 epic *The One-Armed Swordsman*, which has been credited with starting the modern fad for Mandarin swordfighting movies. Ding On, a factory worker, discovers his boss adopted him as a baby after his father was killed by the fierce bandit Fei Lung. His search for his father's killer results in the loss of his arm, but he trains himself to use his remaining arm to fight



"Hunky workers walk around naked much of the time, at one point pulling down their pants *en masse* for a graphic whipping."

with a "blade," a kind of meat cleaver on a string that he learns to use so well he can take on whole armies. In a telling development that could be read as a cultural awakening, the fight scenes no longer depend on Tsui's trademark magical flying; his warriors now must rely on their own cunning, speed, and agility.

Hong Kong films' obsession with the power and vulnerability of the male body reaches some kind of apotheosis here, particularly in the early factory scenes, where hunky workers walk around naked (or nearly so) much of the time, at one point pulling down their pants *en masse* for a graphic whipping by their disgruntled boss. Audiences fa-

miliar with the political developments in Hong Kong (the transfer of the colony back to China next year) will view such scenes as rehearsals of feared future violence, and Ding On's triumph as a mere wish-fulfillment fantasy. Ding On succeeds by reviving old world values of honor, practice, and determination, but Tsui's *mise-en-scene* of faceless enemies and mysterious, unstable environments suggests our hero's achievement is temporary, as precarious as Hong Kong's fate. ▼

*The Blade* plays December 13-19 at the Four Star, 2200 Clement St. Call 666-3488 for information.

# Stud brigade

Strappin' tappin' hunks show off rhythmic prowess in 'Tap Dogs'

by Chad Jones

Rugged, athletic, sweaty and sexy, *Tap Dogs* is an unapologetically entertaining showcase of muscular tap dancing executed by a testosterone-infused cast of six strapping studs. The show, an Australian import, continues at the Orpheum Theatre through December 15.

Up til now, you may have thought that the only tap dog in existence was Ann Miller. Well, even after seeing this show, I can't tell you exactly what a tap dog is, but Ann Miller is definitely not one. To begin with, a tap dog must be a good-looking, industrial-strength male from Down Under who can tap in work boots, at 45-degree angles, upside down, or in a vat of water. Now, Ann Miller is a good dancer, and you can't beat that helmet of hair, but she just doesn't qualify. Not even Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, or Bojangles Robinson qualify, because when you're a tap dog, it's more about rhythmic prowess than razzmatazz shuck 'n' jive.

Like the all-dance, all-noise shows that precede it, such as *Stomp* and *Bring In Da Noise, Bring In Da Funk*, *Tap Dogs* attempts to take tap dancing out of



"The show is one audaciously creative dance sequence after another."

the rather patrician musical theater world to which it has gravitated and into a hip-hop, funk-up, dare-devil world of masculine brio. All *Tap Dogs* is is one audaciously creative dance sequence after another: no talk beyond the guttural noise of exertion, and no story of any kind.

The six dancers, led by Dein Perry, who created and choreographed the show, are all "types," which makes it easier to differentiate them from one another. Perry is the lord god king and lead dancer. He's the centerpiece of the action. Adorable, lanky Ben Read

is the ever-smiling second in command who seems primed to take the lead at any minute. Darren Disney is the long-haired strutting tapper who usually feels the need to include some disco moves in his routines. Drew Kaluski is the bare-chested athletic dancer, while Billy Burke is something of a put-upon little guy. Nathan Sheens is the big ham of the cast.

The dances Perry has conceived are infused with humor (the tap duels are always good-natured and every dancer gets a few laughs) and loaded with energetic

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## Songbird redux

### Cabaret convention set for January

by Chad Jones

People like to bemoan the death of cabaret as a commercial art form in San Francisco, but truth be told, it's far from dead. It's not exactly thriving either, but with events like the West Coast Cabaret Convention, the medium won't expire just yet. Donald Smith, the director of the Mabel Mercer Foundation, has announced plans this week for the Second Annual West Coast Cabaret Convention to be held January 29 through February 9 in San Francisco and Larkspur, so cabaret's death knell will have to ring some other year.

The list of singers scheduled to perform at the convention reads like a who's who of cabaret: Ann Hampton Callaway, Barbara Carroll, Val Diamond, Jeff Harnar, Hildegard, Meg Mackay, Sharon McNight, Paula West, Nancy Dusault, Karen Morrow, Clark Sterling, Billy Stritch, Phillip Officer, Darlene Popovic, Mary Cleere Haran, Amanda McBroom, Maureen McVerry, and Liliane Montevecchi. The two San Francisco venues for the convention will be the Herbst Theater and the York Hotel's Plush Room. Last year's ticket price of \$10 per show created a sell-out for almost every show. Organizers hope to offer the same ticket price this year.

#### Wondrous Weslia

One performer who was not included in the Cabaret Convention last year but will be this year is San Francisco's own Weslia Whitfield, who is holding court for the next month in the Plush Room. Anyone who doubts the worth of cabaret need only spend 90 minutes under the spell of Whitfield and her accompanist/arranger Mike Greensill to be convinced of the art form's hardness.

In their latest show, dubbed



Weslia Whitfield

*Teach Me Tonight*, Whitfield and Greensill journey through the American popular song with a style, grace and integrity all their own. Whitfield begins the set with Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne's 1943 "I've Heard That Song Before," which is usually sung in a bright, up tempo arrangement. Greensill has slowed it down, and in Whitfield's graceful vocal treatment, the heretofore happy, sappy tune becomes rich and poignant. The same can be said for the Rodgers and Hart classic "I Wish I Were In Love Again." All of a sudden, in the hands of these musicians, the song reveals a sharp humor and wry melancholy that would probably even surprise lyricist Hart.

There is no one around to

match the quality of Whitfield and Greensill. Their work together is so assured, smart and true to the spirit of the songs that it becomes impossible for the listener to avoid falling into a state of ecstatic reverie when the music is on. They just get better and better every year.

For the Plush Room gig, Whitfield and Greensill are accompanied on the bass by John Witala, and their song list includes work by Jerome Kern, Harold Arlen, and centennial birthday boy Ira Gershwin. ▼

Weslia Whitfield continues at the Plush Room through January 5. Call 885-2800 for information.

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## MUSIC

# Gold fingers

Pianist Robin Sutherland puts personal stamp on Bach's 'Goldberg Variations'

by Chris Culwell

With the San Francisco Symphony currently on strike, a hundred or so musicians have suddenly found themselves with a lot of free time on their hands. One can only hope they're using it wisely. For a lesson in how to effectively utilize down time, one could take a few pointers from Robin Sutherland, the SF Symphony's principal pianist, who has recently released a recording of J.S. Bach's musical tour de force, *The Goldberg Variations* (d'Note Classics).

Some would argue that the last thing the world needed was another recording of Bach's enduring masterpiece, a set of 30 variations on a theme composed in 1740 for Count Kaiserling's personal harpsichordist, Johann Goldberg. But familiar as this music may be to us, Sutherland's recording is hardly run of the mill. It is unique for, among other things, not adhering to the standard cuts most keyboard artists impose on the work (the disc runs close to 90 minutes; most clock in around 75 minutes). More importantly, though, Sutherland's effort is distinguished by a sense of adventure that remains palpable throughout. Recent musicological interest in Bach has had the positive side-effect of making the Kappelmeister's work a conspicuous, if not forbidding, presence on the musical horizon, in particular this piece. The downside of all that academic noodling, however, is that pedagogy has begun to drain the music of its vitality. Sutherland, who has been thinking about, living with, and playing the *Goldberg Variations* since he was a teenager (he's now 43), has, with this project, effectively blown away some of the dust that has

collected on this score, allowing for the work's wit, quicksilver playfulness, and love of sheer virtuosity to emerge unencumbered. Hearing his traversal of this seminal keyboard work is like hearing the piece anew. This writer isn't the only one to think so, either; Sutherland's recording of the *Goldberg Variations* has just been nominated for a Grammy Award.

Powered by the thought of an openly gay San Francisco musi-

strained by the physical requirements of an LP record; yet I'm surprised that with the currently available technology there aren't more complete recordings of this remarkable work. My recording seems to be the only *Goldberg* in the present catalog that takes full advantage of the time factor. And this is a work neither written hastily nor meant to be listened to in haste. The first traversals of it — at the hands of Johann Gold-

**Glenn Gould inspired me to look at the piece. He brought the 'Goldberg Variations' to currency. He took them from the arcane world of the harpsichord and made them interesting to pianists.**

cian winning such a high-profile prize, the B.A.R. decided it was high time to chat with Sutherland, who lives in San Francisco with his husband of "nine very, very happy" years, Jose Padgett.

Why the *Goldberg Variations*?

I chose to record the *Goldberg Variations* because it seems to be the work that speaks somehow most directly to me. The truncations in it, or "cuts," which have almost become standard in other recordings, were never meant to be there, certainly not by Bach himself. On this project, I was afforded the relative luxury of doing the piece fully, stretching it to the boundaries of its considerable dimensions. At nearly one and a half hours, its length is not something to be shied away from in my view. Others may have been con-

berg in the early 1740s — were given at leisure, and this is what I hope to have emulated.

Have you ever played the *Goldberg Variations* on harpsichord, the instrument for which they were written?

On the work's title page, Bach designates this work specifically

page 51 ▶



Robin Sutherland

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## John Killacky

◀ Arts cover

about it," he relates. "I wasn't scared of dying; in my life, 119 people have died of AIDS, so the concept of dying is a regular phenomenon for me. But I had always been pretty physically active. I was a runner, and I was very afraid of being paralyzed. I didn't know how I could ever deal with that."

Friends and colleagues — not to mention many of the 5,000 artists he brought to Walker during his tenure — rallied to his side, which was fantastic, but kind of beside the point. Sure, he was loved, but he was also immobile from the neck down. "I remember times when it was very early in the morning, around dawn, and it would be very quiet in the hospital. And all I could move were my eyes. And I would just fantasize about getting over to the window somehow. I would hit my head against the window and slit my throat on the broken glass, because I didn't know how I could live any longer."

In retrospect, Killacky credits his partner of two years, novelist Larry Connolly, with his survival. "He stayed with me 24 hours a day, round the clock, and anytime I woke up, he was there, holding my hand, telling me everything was going to be okay."

A major turning point came when Killacky was rushed into intensive care to correct massive internal bleeding. "I actually thought I was dying then. And Larry just held me and said, 'John, please don't die,' and so I didn't. Then they stabilized me and I thought, 'Okay, I'm stabilized. Let's get to work.'"

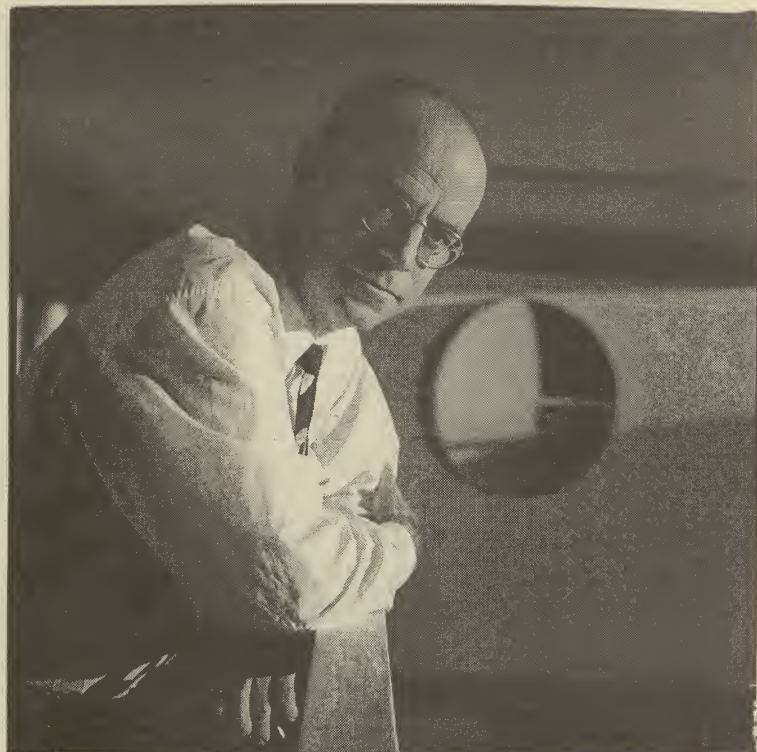
Work, in this case, meant six

weeks in physical rehabilitation, where Killacky learned to move again. "You sort of have to recreate yourself," he says. "The whole process is pretty astounding. You wake up and you can't move a finger, and you're shattered, and then slowly you start to come back. Your body unravels. The first time I stood up, after not knowing if I'd ever stand again, was incredible. Everything became new again, everything was a first. It was actually kind of fun."

Today, six months after the operation, Killacky walks with a cane, can't discern hot from cold on his left side, and can't sense where his hips and left leg are unless he's actually looking at them. He still exercises various muscle groups for two hours a day. But, he says, that's fine. "Do I miss part of my old body? Yes. Do I miss what I could do before? Yes. I'm still mourning the losses. But I'm beginning to celebrate some of the opportunities."

One of the opportunities he's celebrating is his new position at the Center, which he assumed on December 1. "I had wanted to work here for a long time. My sister Jean lives in San Francisco, and about a year ago, I was visiting her, and we were walking through the garden [at the Center] and I said, 'One of my dreams is to work at this place.'"

As executive director, Killacky is essentially responsible for everything that goes on at the Center. "The buck really stops with me," he grins. His list of responsibilities seems endless: "I oversee the entire staff, work with the curators, make sure the theaters and galleries are in top-notch condition. I help raise money, work with the marketing



John Killacky

team, and I'm responsible for the budget, which is over \$5 million."

When talking about the Center, Killacky gets visibly excited, and though he tends to use lots of dry, let's-celebrate-diversity catch phrases ("We hope to really illu-

minate the pluralism of San Francisco"), his enthusiasm is genuine. "Have you seen our *Hall of Fame* show?" he asks excitedly, referring to the collection of Hall of Fame exhibits (curated by Artistic Director of Visual Arts Renny Pritikin) culled from across the country, now juxtaposed at Yerba Buena. "There's the Cowgirl Hall of Fame, the Hot Dog Hall of Fame, the croquet Hall of Fame," he says, adding, somewhat sadly, that "Mattel wouldn't let us have the Barbie Hall of Fame."

With the *Hall of Fame Hall of Fame* exhibit scheduled to remain up through February 23, 1997, Killacky and the curators can concentrate on future shows. In June, the Center will showcase Bay Area artists; beyond that, plans aren't definite, although the director does intend to bring to the Center a healthy amount of gay- and lesbian-specific art, a particular strength for which he occasionally drew criticism at Walker and was, in certain circles, branded an *enfant terrible*.

"Sometimes in Minneapolis people would say to me, 'Don't you think you're doing too much gay and lesbian programming?' And I said, 'Gosh, if we do 100 different events, and 10 of them have gay and lesbian content, is that too much?' The audiences are there. I also feel that gay and lesbian work doesn't appeal solely to gays and lesbians. I can go to Arthur Miller and have a good time; can't straight people make that bridge? The bottom line is that [the Center] is a public institution, we receive public subsidy. Therefore we must reflect the lives of gay and lesbian people, because we pay taxes, too."

### Making it legal

If Killacky's jobs have made him more aware of gay art, his surgery heightened his interest in queer politics, especially as it relates to gay marriage. "Up till then, I was really like, 'What's the big deal?' But going into the surgery, I felt it was really important that we figure out the legal implications if something went wrong."

Killacky and Connolly's "marriage" took place in downtown Minneapolis, on Killacky's lunch

hour. "We had the mortgage put in both our names. It wasn't a commitment ceremony at all, it was creating legal documents, and we felt that was our commitment to one another. Because then we did actually share our assets." He pauses, a wry smile creeping across his face. "By assets, what I mean is the checking account."

He also gave Connolly power of attorney in case the surgery went wrong. "His rights took priority over my blood family's concerning medical decisions, including stopping care if necessary. We worked with a lawyer pretty carefully to make sure everything was in order, and we made sure the medical staff all knew about it; the papers were in my file and Larry also carried copies with him at all times. And I was so glad we had that protection because, you know, my mom's fantastic, but she's Catholic, and I've been a Buddhist for 20 years. I would have wanted to be cremated, and she's already told me that she would have buried me."

Killacky sighs, an oh-the-drama sigh, then brightens. "What's great about being here in San Francisco," he says, "is that people don't really know much about what happened to me. In Minneapolis, people were so horrified by the story, they were as traumatized by it, as I was. People would always come up to me and hug me and ask if I was okay. Whereas here, you meet me, and it's like, he shakes a little and has a cane. Big deal. In this community, this is who I am."

Not that his fame at Walker won't sometimes come in handy at the Center. Shortly after he started work last week, Killacky noticed that someone was filming something in one of the theaters, and he decided to have a peek.

"You can't go in there," said a guard who was stationed by the door. "Oh, really?" said Killacky, eyebrows raised. "I'm the boss." ▼

**The Hall of Fame Hall of Fame exhibit is up through February 23 at the Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens. For information, call 978-2710.**

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## INTERVIEW

## Guy Kettelhack explores gay sexuality Split psyches

by Wayne Hoffman

You can't be born into the world and not be dealing with ogres and angels," says Guy Kettelhack, author of *Dancing Around the Volcano* (Crown, \$25). In his examination of gay men's erotic psyches, Kettelhack struggles with psychosexual Jekylls and Hydes—both his own and those of men he has interviewed. Internal conflicts over dark desires and sexual needs create a loose narrative structure for the author. His goal, however, is not to resolve this tension but to put it in clearer relief.

"I don't see it as a problem to be solved, but as a conflict to be looked at, accepted, lived with," he says. "What is this doing for me? How does it operate in my life? Are there ways I can accept and even have fun with stuff that some part of me says I can't? Just to ask the questions without instantly jumping to how to fix it can be life-changing."

Kettelhack delves into sexuality as a psychological phenomenon, one where inner selves splinter and battle amongst themselves, and superegos sit in judgment of ids. In the midst of this fight, Kettelhack tries to call a time-out for self-reflection.

"The therapy of this book is [to be as] accepting of as many of the impulses and urges that boot you in the ass as you can without a reflexive negative judgment," he says. "It's becoming conscious of the dark and the light stuff that's there, giving yourself a breath of a moment to look at it with curiosity rather than an instant pathologizing urge."

Relying heavily on psychoanalysis and biological determinism—rather than sociology and social construction—Kettelhack sees the conflicts that tear at gay men's sexual psyches as deeply rooted and nearly untouchable. The fact that the social, political and cultural positions of gay men have improved dramatically in the past few decades is largely beside the point in his analysis.

"It's not that someone who's 18 in 1996 can't look around and say there are real positive messages there for myself," he explains. "That's not what you respond to. What you respond to is unconscious and it comes in infancy, so you're always dealing with it. The conflict is internal, and it comes with being a human being."

### Deep-rooted homophobia

The same Victorian morals that most people internalize as infants, he maintains, create a subconscious sense of right and wrong, good and evil, particularly around an issue as sensitive as sexuality. These feelings can foster shame and self-hatred, denial and repression in gay men. They also feed deep-rooted homophobia among straight people—in particular straight men—and Kettelhack isn't sure that this can ever be completely overcome. While legislation and cultural tolerance can change behaviors, he says, attitudes about homosexuality may be too deeply ingrained to be affected by such external manipulation. There may be an insurmountable gulf between gay men and straight men.

"You're dealing with a reflexive

fear in straight male society that goes beyond [being touched] by logic or legislation or positive cover stories in the *New York Times*," says Kettelhack. "There's a terrible fear I'm not sure is curable; it is so inchoate. That may be part of the conflict we have to live with."

Even the most liberal parents, he says, have a visceral negative reaction to learning their children are gay, whether or not they express it openly. And while it's important to recognize the impact of people's outward behavior, it's also important to acknowledge the reality of their inward response.

Helping straight America overcome its hard-wired homo-hatred is, therefore, far beyond Kettelhack's mission. His focus is instead on helping gay men examine their own desires and erotic lives without judging themselves. Kettelhack explores the potential of sadomasochistic role play and spiritual shamanism, and mines issues from paternal acceptance to sexual monogamy. Drawing on sources from Quentin Crisp to Michel Foucault in addition to his interview subjects, Kettelhack shows the variety of ways gay men negotiate their sexual psyches.

### Listen without judging

In some ways his narrative model, with its diverse litany of struggles and routes to healing, sounds like a 12-step meeting, and that's no coincidence. Kettelhack has authored several books on sobriety and alcoholism, and the impact of Alcoholics Anonymous on his thinking is evident in many places.

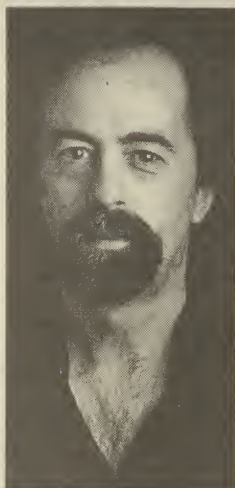
"What AA taught me to do is listen to other people without judging," he says. "The point is not to fix anybody else but just to listen. That's amazingly healing over the long term."

Where he departs from the 12-step model, however, is in his sense of personal license, where each man sets his own goals and finds his own comfort level with his internal frictions. Rather than trying to eliminate the dark parts of psyche and behavior, Kettelhack revels in the tension between dark and light. His aim is to understand rather than suppress the Mister Hyde inside.

"Since compulsion arises out of a severe sense of repression, we help ourselves more when we give ourselves permission to have an urge or feeling or fantasy, and sometimes act out on them," he says. "A lot of what fuels the repression is self-hate, and if there's a way to ease that self-hate, then options become available."

Despite the creeping sexual conservatism masquerading as disease prevention, those options have not changed in the era of AIDS, he claims. While the epidemic has fueled many men's psychological fears and aggravated the split between desires and judgment in many men's minds, the basic internal conflicts at work kick in long before consciousness of HIV. In fact, AIDS has been used too often as an excuse for gay men's psychological discord, obscuring the deeper reasons.

"AIDS quickly became the forum for fears that were already there," the author notes. "It became a magnet for internal issues. If you could get rid of AIDS right



Guy Kettelhack

now, you'd still have a lot of people in conflict. It becomes a scapegoat."

There are no tangible external targets to pin the blame on, however. Instead of prescribing a way to reconcile what he dubs the "enigma of gay men and sex," Kettelhack explores how several men have looked into their own lives at their own conflicts and sought self-acceptance.

"The liberation—and the tough part—in what I'm calling for is that it's totally up to you," he says. "You have to diagnose it yourself. You have to decide what you need." ▼

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## Last but not least

by Deborah Peifer

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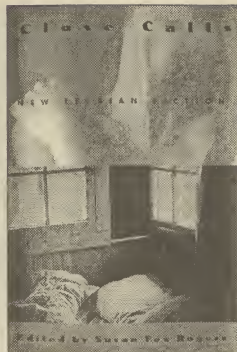
Laurel by Isabel Miller; Naiad, \$10.95

over. We say the word as if it had one meaning we all understood in the same way. In her last novel, published posthumously by Naiad Press, Isabel Miller, the author of the much-loved and greatly revered *Patience and Sarah*, explores the faces of love in a tightly constructed tale that traces the history of a relationship and the many twists the concept of love takes in the course of one life.

Lucille is a 43-year-old dyke when she meets the possibly straight, impossibly enchanting, twenty-something Laurel. The time is the '70s, and Lucille is a lesbian of the old school, fearful of discovery, wedded to strict rules of femme behavior. Laurel is a free spirit, interested in all of life's possibilities.

Laurel and Lucille become friends, confidantes, lovers (for one night); Lucille is forced by Laurel's outrageous behavior to consider the unthinkable, her own desires. Her journey to self is moving and believable.

Miller does a wonderful job of recalling the history of lesbianism over the period of change that began with Stonewall and continues to today. Her characters are richly detailed and warmly human. *Laurel* is a lovely gift to all of us dykes who read, as well as a stunning reminder of where we've been. ▼



## No bang for your buck

by Deborah Peifer

*Close Calls: New Lesbian Fiction* edited by Susan Fox Rogers; St. Martins, \$24.95

Any anthology of lesbian fiction begins these days with a soul-searching quest for definitions. What is lesbian fiction, after all? Written by or written about or written by and about? What about style? Does it matter at all? Is content the final

arbiter?

Susan Fox Rogers, editor of this mostly rather dreary collection, was "open to anything in form, style or plot. All [she] required was a character who was a lesbian and a story that was written by a woman." OK. I've always considered all women to be either lesbians or pre-lesbians, but it seems to me that the looseness of Rogers' definition renders this collection less useful than it might be.

The stories range in quality from not too bad to not at all good, with a few exceptions that, though quite good, are not worth the steep \$24.95 asking price. Anna Livia's "Lightning Dances Over the Prairie Like Lust at a Nightclub" is a wonderful, thrilling, exquisite piece of writing. If we had such a thing in this country as living national treasures, Anna Livia would retire the title.

Jeanne Winer's "The Trip We Took Last February" is a funny and strangely moving tale of the love between Judith, who is "convinced that the world is fundamentally an unsafe place," and Deidre, who "think[s] of the world as a giant playground where nothing bad usually happens, and if it does, it's an unexpected surprise."

Editor Rogers claims that "anthologies function as our literary magazines." Maybe, but the literary magazines that I've seen offer considerably more quality for the price. *Close Calls* is not worth your time. ▼

## Tap Dogs

◀ page 45

dazzle. At 75 minutes, *Tap Dogs* is the perfect length for a dance show that tries (and mostly succeeds) to top itself with each successive number. Sheens duets with a basketball, Burke literally dances on the ceiling of the scaffolding set (an ingenious design by Nigel Triffitt, who also directed), the entire cast plays a variety of drum machines with their feet in a veritable symphony of percussion, and Perry swirls amid a fountain of construction-site sparks. At one point, the first few rows of the au-

dience get dowsed when the cast takes to tapping in a water trough.

The mostly rock (and very loud) score is performed by Andrew Wilkie (who also composed it) and Jason Yudoff, but the real music of the night comes from the well-miked feet of the dancers. These wizards from Oz put on a good, fast-moving show that demonstrates just how much fun it can be when dancing is done *Tap Dog-gy* style. ▼

*Tap Dogs* continues at the Orpheum Theatre through December 15. Call 776-1999 for information.

## EVENT

## Crafty gals



SF's 18th annual Celebration of Craftswomen continues at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion (Buchanan Street and Marina Boulevard) this weekend, December 14-15, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Featuring 135 different artists each weekend, the Celebration of Craftswomen is the largest juried women's crafts fair in the U.S. The event, which features many lesbian and bisexual artists, is a benefit for the San Francisco Women's Building. Call 361-0700 for tickets and information. ▼

OPEN 9.00 am to 2.00 am DAILY (FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ALL NIGHT.)

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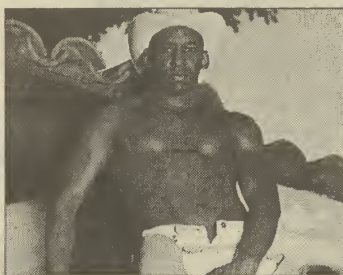
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## MUSIC

## Sutherland

◀ page 47

for the two-manual harpsichord, and I defy him, obviously, by playing it on piano. But Bach never knew the piano as we know it today, simply because they hadn't yet got the bugs out of it by the time he was shown one in 1748 at the court of Frederick the Great in Potsdam. The instrument was refined quickly thereafter, but Bach, who died in 1750, never lived to get those late reports. I have only to examine his wonderful writing for the flute, the violin, and the voice, however, to know in my heart that he would have approved of what I have done here. And I would remind the purists of musicologist Michael Steinberg's observation that Bach himself was a persistent, bold, and joyous translator, not only of his own music, but of others as well.

In your opinion, what explains the timeless appeal of the *Goldberg Variations*?

The eternal appeal of the *Goldberg Variations* derives from its affirmation of that old but correct wheeze that boundless freedom emerges from dauntingly ordered strictures. What Bach does with his 32-bar bass line stands as one of the pillars of Western Civilization. And even though the aria from which the whole work springs was found in Bach's notebook, we're not certain that it was even composed by Bach. It is a richly ornamented sarabande, but in other hands that might have been the end of it.

What is the biggest challenge to the performer of these works?

In a live performance the trick is to get the statement to express such unity that you can't imagine for a second that anything can be taken out of the piece. To make it exist spacially as it exists physically on paper. Of course, recording the piece is easier. All you have to do is get the variations right one at a time. Everything stops at the end of 32 bars, and then through the miracle of editing, you can seam it altogether.

Which are your favorite recordings of the *Goldberg Variations*, and which your least?

The recording most precious to me is that of Wanda Landowska (late '40s) on harpsichord, possibly because it dates to my earliest awareness of the piece. The liberties she takes — such as virtually recomposing the end of the seventh variation — have just got to be admired. I, too, am very partial to the *Goldbergs* of Wilhelm Kempff. I only wish that there were recordings available of some who have tried the piece, and bravely, considering the times in which they flourished — like Beethoven and Liszt.

On the other end of the spectrum we find Keith Jarrett and Anthony Newman, neither of whom has done the two most important things with the piece — to sit with it, humbly, and, of course, to practice it.

When did you first become aware of this music?

Glenn Gould was one of the first to inspire me to look at the *Goldberg Variations*. Gould brought them to currency. He took them from a less arcane world, the unapproachable world of the harpsichord, and made them interesting to pianists. He made them



Robin Sutherland: "What Bach does with the 32-bar bass line stands as one of the pillars of Western Civilization."

more than The longest Piece in the World. He recorded them twice in the '50s, and both recordings earned Grammys.

Which pianists have influenced you most?

My favorite pianist in all the world is Josef Lhevinne. Even though he died in 1943, precluding any chance I might have to hear him in live performance, and even though he probably never thought more than two or three minutes in his entire life about the *Goldberg Variations* — it wasn't in fashion back then, believe it or not — he was possessed of superhuman technical prowess, a piano tone like the morning stars, and an innate musical intellect that defies description. He has raised the lid higher than anyone, for me anyway, with respect to what the piano is capable of doing. In descending order after Lhevinne come Sergei Rachmaninoff and Josef Hofmann. Among living pianists, I must mention Earl Wild, for all of these reasons. For Bach on the piano, the luminous name of Rosalyn Tureck must be mentioned first and foremost.

How has the 20th-century art of recording changed our perceptions of 18th-century keyboard music?

The art of recording has changed our perception of Bach's music enormously, although from what I can't really say. Bach is lost to us utterly in this regard — we know his notes, his few invaluable treatises, and we know the details of a rather well-documented life. But what in hell did he play like? He was well-trained, yet the curriculum of his time was vastly different from ours today — improvisation was stressed heavily back then, and that, when combined with the practice of scant notation and even scarcer interpretive indication, leaves us with one of the largest works in the keyboard literature, and one of the blindest slates. Scholarship is vital to the guesswork in realizing the music. The art of recording has broadened enormously the audience for

this music.

Besides the piano, what are your other interests?

My main interest outside of music is the field of Polynesian languages and linguistics, with an emphasis on the Hawaiian language, and a more specific emphasis on the translation into English of 19th-century Hawaiian monarchical poetry. A couple of my efforts in this area have been published in Honolulu by the Queen Lili'uokalani Trust. I like the challenge of working in a language that has no equivalents for the English "to be" or "to have." This makes Hamlet's soliloquy in Hawaiian tough, but it can be done! Also, Hawaiian is a treasure-trove of kaona, or hidden meaning, which can really only be understood by immersion in the culture. It's a little like Debussy's *La Mer*, in that people who think the piece is about the ocean are largely missing the point. ▼

Robin Sutherland's recording is available at Tower, Virgin Megastore, Star Classics, and elsewhere.

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Steve Thompson

## I remember MOMA

Scott Thompson's photographs of SFMOMA showing at Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room through the month, prove how quickly the Museum's Mario Botta architecture has become iconic for SF. Thompson's series of interiors of the building resolve into abstract fields of shapes and light. Botta's idiosyncratic design vision becomes modulated by the photographer's own.

Right now is a particularly good time to visit the museum. Up in the fifth and fourth floor galleries, the show of German artist Katharina Fritsch's large-scale sculptures is designed to impress. Her *Museum Modell 1:10* is a huge white pedestal, atop which an octagonal pavilion is surrounded by a "web" of black trees. A mirrored ball hanging from the ceiling reflects the museum and its environs in the shape of a star: this is architectural model as visionary landscape.

Fritsch's works have the heroic scale, but also the placid emptiness, of minimalist sculpture. Still, her ambitious creations inspire reflection and a measure of awe.

Currently, the big crowd-pleaser at SFMOMA is *Crossing the Frontier: Photographs of the Developing West, 1849 to the Present*, a wide-ranging survey of Western photography, from such remote locales as San Marcos, Texas and Vaughn, New Mexico, to urban areas like Gary Winogrand's Santa Monica. The exhibit is exemplary of the museum's strong holdings in photography, along with two more photo shows, the ongoing *Picturing Modernity*, and *Commonplace Mysteries: Photographs by Peter Hujar, Andrea Modica, and Bill Owens*. B.A.R. readers may especially enjoy Modica's studies of the young studpups who play minor league baseball, and Hujar's portraits of gay icons Ethyl Eichelberger, Candy Darling, David Wojnarowicz, and Divine seem destined for the ages.

Finally, the works by 1996 SECA Art Award winners D-L Alvarez, Anne Appleby, and Barry McGee remain up through January 7, though McGee's mural deserves to be a permanent installation. The three artists will appear at a lecture tonight, December 12, 7 p.m. in the museum's Phyllis Wattis Theater. ▼

Katharina Fritsch through March 11; *Crossing the Frontier* through January 28; *Commonplace Mysteries* through February 4, at SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. Call 357-4000.

Steve Thompson photographs through December at Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. Call 864-7654



Jaston Williams (left) as Tuna City secretary Dixie Deberry, and Joe Sears as blue-jay-shooting Aunt Pearl Burras in *A Tuna Christmas* at the Marines Memorial Theatre. See Wednesday.

## Fri

### The Ballad of Buttercup Gap

Lamplighters Music Theatre's champagne gala, musical spoof of melodramas, set to music of Sullivan. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$38. Lindland Theatre, 175 Pheasant. 227-0331.

### Body Positive

Holiday party, social group for gay men. 7pm. Hotel Rex, 562 Sutter. Call for admission info. (510) 835-5454.

### Career

Pipedream Productions presents James Lee's noir tale of stage life. Thru 12/14. 8:30pm. \$10. Studio 300, 450 Geary. 921-6444.

### Christmas Sucks

Pornographers performance reading, includes Bill Brent, Carol Queen, Thomas Roche, Danielle Willis, more. \$5-10. Doors 7:30pm. Artist's Cafe, 208 Valencia.

### Conversations With Aunt Martha

Charles Blackburn's solo performance as the President of the Grandmothers From Hell Society. Fri. & Sat. thru 12/21 at 8pm. \$12. EXIT Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 566-9763.

### Digitally Yours

Karen Hirst and Margery

Kreitman in evening of comic sketches on technological madness. Fri.-Sun. at 8:30pm thru 12/15. \$10. Theater Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

### Frederica von Stade

Mezzo-soprano in recital with the New Century Chamber Orchestra. \$22. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

### Gretchen Phillips

Former Two Nice Girls band member sings cabaret with a dyke twist. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### A John Waters X-Mas

King of Kink director John Waters chats onstage; *Female Trouble*; *Chia-Cha Heels* Contest. \$15. 7:30pm. (11pm film only; \$6.50) Castro Theatre, 429 Castro. 863-0611.

### Lady, Be Good!

42nd St. Moon's Lost Musical series presents George and Ira Gershwin's jazz age musical. Thurs.-Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 12/15. \$18. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

### Now What?

A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents improvisations by Corey Fischer and Nina Wise. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 12/21. \$15. ATJT, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

### Nutcracker

Oakland Ballet, Oakland East

Bay Symphony in holiday classic. \$6-36. Thru 12/29, call for dates. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 776-1999.

### Pat Welch, Jess Wells

Reading from *Smoke & Mirrors*, and *Reclaiming the Heartland: Lesbian & Gay Voices from the Midwest*, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

### Pulp Nellie

The Nellie Olesons in twisted sketch comedy. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/21 at 8pm. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Tap Dogs

Dein Perry's reinvention of tap dancing: athletic sextet in Blunderstone boots and Levi's. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/15, call for times. \$15-38. Tonight at 8pm. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. 776-1999.

### 'Tis Pity She's a Whore

John Ford's tragic play of incest, murder and revenge. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 12/15. \$9. Little Theatre, SFSU Creative Arts Bldg., 7600 Holloway. 338-2467.

### Vanities

All-new gay version of Jack Heifner's comedy: lives of three Texan football players. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/21, call for times. \$16-20. Tonight at

8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

## Sat

### Big Deal

Silkscreen artist Jim Winters unveils new large portraits, reception tonight, 8pm. Thru 1/1. Showroom, 442A Haight. 487-9440.

### Brides of the Moon

The Five Lesbian Brothers play an all-woman space crew on a top-secret mission to the moon. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 12/15. Call for times of matinee/twilight shows. \$12-25. Theater Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

### Celebration of Craftswomen

SF's largest holiday crafts fair, benefits Women's Building. Sat. & Sun. 10am-6pm thru 12/15. \$5. Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason. 361-0700.

### A Chanticleer Christmas

Male vocal ensemble performs sacred music, spirituals, carols. \$19-26. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. St. Ignatius, 650 Parker. 392-4400.

### Fiesta de Navidad

Futura, Latino dance club's Xmas bash. \$10. 10pm-3am. King St. Garage, 174 King. 665-6715.

### Gay Comedy Night

Suzi Berger, Sabrina Matthews, Julia Query. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Holiday Booksigning

Artists include Jill Posener and Susie Bright, *Nothing But the Girl*, *The Blatant Lesbian Image*. Noon. Friends of Photography Bookstore, 250 4th St. 495-7242.

### Holiday Hollywood Cabaret

"At home with the Clintons" cabaret. \$6, \$5 with unwrapped gift for SF Firefighters Toy Program. 9:30pm. Kimo's Lounge, 1351 Polk. 921-6748.

### Leon

Open studio, drawings, prints, more. 12/14, 21&22. 11am-3pm. 4623 18th St.

### Multicultural Film and Video Fest

2nd annual Bay Area fest includes "Ferdous," "Echo Soup," more lesbian and gay films. 12/12-15. \$6. 6:30pm & 8:45pm. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-2787.

## Sing-It-Yourself Messiah

3,000 audience members, Conservatory Orchestra and student soloists, conducted by Michael Barrett. \$18-42. 8pm. Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness. 864-6000.

## Stars: Songs from the Galaxy

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus holiday concert, make beautiful music with San Francisco Boys Chorus. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$10-40. Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California. 392-4400.

## The Velveteen Rabbit

ODC/San Francisco presents the holiday classic. Thru 12/15, call for times. \$8.50-28.50. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-2787.

## Sun

### Bob's Big Dance

Modern dance performances by Li Chia Ping, Potrzebie Dance Project, Stephen Pelton Dance Co., more. \$10. 8:30pm. Dancers' Group Studio Theater, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

## Dance Along Nutcracker

SF Winds of Freedom, Cheer San Francisco, Jose Sarria, more in holiday concert. \$6 (2pm show), \$12 (6pm). Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-2787.

## G40+ Club Party

Holiday party, performances; bring holiday foods. 2pm. First Unitarian, 1187 Franklin. 552-1997.

## Moving Pictures:

"Films by Photographers" screenings Fri. & Sun. at 1&3pm thru 12/15. Museum admission \$7. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

## Piano Sale

SF Opera annual sale. 11am-4pm. Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, Grove betw. Polk/Larkin. 1-800-PIANO-41.

## 25 and under party

Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning 25+ under. \$1 or canned food for Proj. Open. 1-4pm. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley.

## Mon

## Appropriated Emotion

Art by Diane Fenster and Miles Stryker. Mon.-Sat. thru 12/31. Gallery 16, 1616 16th St. 626-7495.



The men of premier vocal ensemble Chanticleer sing Renaissance masterworks, joyful spirituals and seasonal songs in *A Chanticleer Christmas* at St. Ignatius. See Saturday.



Mario Calvano's "Portrait of Maria Callas," part of *Diva*, an exhibition "Honoring Opera's Legendary Women" at Terrain. See Tuesday.



**A Christmas Memory**  
Truman Capote's story read by Robert Coffman, reception follows. 7pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

#### Gay Comedy

**Open Mike**  
Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Karen Ripley. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

#### Jim Leff

"Yuletide at the Lone Star," a showing of seasonal paintings, thru 12/23. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 431-7662.

#### Musical Instruments

"From Around the World," exhibit: a Kuwaiti oud, an Angolan sanza cove, a Vietnamese dan tranh, more. Mon.-Fri. thru 12/27. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery. 983-4000.

#### Nude Before Christmas

Homeroetic paintings and drawings by Rick Herold, thru 12/21. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. 284-0567.

#### Steve Thompson

Photographs inspired by SF-MOMA, thru Dec. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

## Tyes

#### Bridges

"A Collaborative Project," 115th Annual Exhibition, includes Ann Chamberlain, Ian Pollock & Janet Silk, more. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 749-4545.

#### Confess

6th annual entry fee-free juried exhibition. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/21. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

#### Diva:

"Honoring Opera's Legendary Women" exhibition of documentary photos, sculpture and paintings of great prima donnas. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/11. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

#### Funny Girl

Debbie Gibson plays Fanny Brice in the Broadway musical, opens tonight. Thru 1/12, call for dates. \$34-\$62.50. 8pm. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

#### Hall of Fame

Exhibition of art and artifacts from over 50 halls of fame, thru 2/23. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

#### Josie's Pussycat Theatre

Artist's Television Access presents queer cinema. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

#### QTV

Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

#### Sappho

"No Ordinary Housewife," a multimedia installation embracing Sappho's creative genius. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/31. Braval women's bookstore, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. 369-3335.

#### Women's Work

Performances by Julia Query, Liebe Wetzel, Evangel King, Nina Barlow. \$6-10. 8pm. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

## Wed 18

#### Baby Judy's

Dance club farewell party. Casanova, 527 Valencia.

#### Beach Blanket Babylon

Musical revue's holiday extravaganza shows, call for seasonal schedule. \$18-45. Club Fugazi, 678 Green. 421-4222.

#### Beat Culture

"And the New America: 1950-1965," exhibition of painting, sculpture, film, installations, music and spoken word. Thru 12/29. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

#### A Christmas Carol

A.C.T.'s production of Charles Dickens' tale: Scrooge and Tiny Tim. Tues.-Sat. thru

12/26, call for times. \$19-47.50. Tonight at 7:30pm. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

#### The Confessions of Madame Psyche

Story of Mei-Li in the early days of SF. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/22 at 8:30pm; call for matinees. \$15. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

#### Historical Paintings

"Of the Great Battle of San Francisco: New Work" by Sandow Birk, thru 1/18. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

#### Magic Show

Magician Daniel Alistair and friends perform. \$5. 8pm. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

#### Man 2 Man Marin

"Safer Sex Secret Santa Party" for gay & bi men, bring wrapped safer sex gift. Call for location. 7:30pm. 457-2487 x424.

#### Noh Christmas Carol

Theatre of Yugen's adaptation of Dickens' story opens. Thru 12/22, call for times. \$17. Mountain View Center for Perf. Arts, Castro & Mercy, Mountain View. 903-6000.

#### Party

David Dillon's comedy: seven gay friends play "Facts and Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 1/5, call for times. \$20-25. Tonight at 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

#### Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.-Sun. extended thru 2/16. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

#### A Tuna Christmas

Sequel to "Greater Tuna" stars Joe Sears, Jaston Williams. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/22. Call for times, prices. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

## Thur 19

#### Jesse Allen

Paintings and prints of imaginary landscapes. Thru 1/4. Vorpall Gallery, 393 Grove. 397-9200.

#### Katharina Fritsch

Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 3/9. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

#### Nervous Laughter

Holiday comedy sketches: eggnog, family tensions, alcoholism. Thurs.-Sat. thru 12/28 at 8:30pm. \$8-12. Marsh Theater, 1062 Valencia.

#### Souvenirs of Savings:

"Miniature Bank Buildings from the Collection of Ace Architects" exhibit. Thru 2/25. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

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# Leather antics raise over \$50000

by Mister Marcus

The holiday season got off to an auspicious start last weekend with four major leather events, two of which raised some \$5,100! The Alameda County Leather Corps' annual Santa Slave Auction at the "world famous" Turf Club (WFTC) in Hayward on Saturday night, Dec. 7, raised \$3000, and the leather champagne brunch at Harvey's, \$2,100. The SM Exchange and play party were both at the Women's Building on Sunday, Dec. 8.

In addition, the Defenders MC hosted the Eagle beer bust later on Sunday, featuring that new Cuervo Místico tequila, which produced some interesting results in certain quarters. I didn't get any reports on either the SM Exchange or the Defenders beer bust, but I'm sure that was not because of a lack of action.

Randy Wright and Roger Luttrell co-emceed a very successful Santa Slave Auction, with lots of raffle goodies, 50/50 outlay and East Bay men auctioned off for various services. The most unique: Ken Meyers' offer of "negotiable" services, which translated to: "I'll do anything legal." Lots of great entertainment and the 1997 Bare Chest Calendar guys were there autographing the new calendar and modeling some of the auction items.

And although it wasn't announced, it's official: Roger Luttrell is "officially" married to Danny, the co-owner of the WFTC. Hmm. Blond goddess, Radhika, formerly Ms. Alameda Co. Leather, showed up with a very attractive, leathery woman, Sandy, in tow. Radhika didn't say if I could have the pick of the litter or not!

With the sounds of Don Thompson's piano tinkling in the background at Harvey's on Sunday, over 200 people swarmed in for the \$20 holiday leather brunch — a scrumptious array of food, champagne, Santa hats and mucho conviviality. The din was so loud you couldn't hear the agonizing screams of the 49ers as they were crushed by the Panthers. The playoff picture doesn't look all that bad; there's still hope! Lots of raffle drawings as Mr. SF Leather Gary Virginia's event was a smash success! Some of the ex-



The Mr. DC-Eagle '96 winners — (l to r): Wayne Nesbitt, second runner-up; Jeff Gillies, winner; and Tom Urbanski, first runner-up — celebrated that bar's 25th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 30.

pected leather title holders didn't show up — too busy imbibing at that secret party thrown by former Mr. SF Leather Wolf Mirasol down in Half Moon Bay.

Hordes too at the SF-Eagle for the Defenders MC beer bust. As crowded as it was, Rude Paul managed to sink his claws (I think it was his claws!) into the affable Vince Finkowski (we don't want the pick of that litter!), and one of the Golden Gate Guards "married" couples was on the verge of a nasty tiff; divorce lawyers were standing in line with business cards!

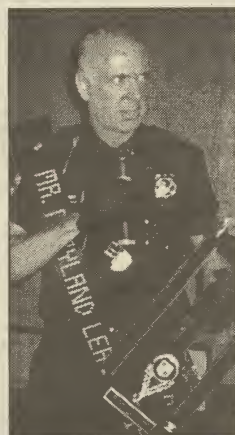
That new Místico tequila by Cuervo introduced Sunday at the beer bust proved to be rather deadly, but that didn't stop The Three Amigos (Andy Rose, Don Tse and Omar Moseley) from contributing considerably to the effort. That stuff is vicious!

The publisher of Drummer magazine, Martijn Bakker, blew into town briefly, but do you think he even bothered to call any of his former loyal cohorts? Even his new honcho Don ("I just can't make out in leather in this town!") doesn't have business cards yet! Are you reading this, Mark Stevens?

The results are in from the Mr. Toronto Leather contest, where during the Dec. 6-8 leatherfest, Duncan MacLachlan stepped aside for his successor. Climaxing the well-attended and profitable event, Robert Tomas took the title, with Rich Kazmirek the first runner-up and Dave Ewles the

second runner-up. Dave also won the Mr. Leather Fellowship award. One of the contest highlights was Duncan's roast, emceed by Lance Brittain; Duncan was hilarious onstage in a baby outfit!

Duncan will host the second annual Maple Leaf Party in Chicago next May — one of the best



Another IML '97 contender: Mr. Maryland Leather '96 Rick Poloway, chosen at the Baltimore Eagle in November.

soirées during that leathery weekend last year. I'll have photos of the new Canadian bacon, er, uh, icon, next week, right, Jay Wagner?

The item I reported here last week about a major leather title holder demanding \$2000 for ap-



The eight Mr. DC-Eagle aspirants during the jock portion of the Thanksgiving weekend contest. Winner Jeff Gillies is fourth from left.



## LEATHER SCENE

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

## Weekend, Dec. 13-15

The first of two Mr./Ms. Florida Leather Contests to be held in that state. This one, produced by Spencer K. Osborne, is at the Parliament House. The second one is in Fort Lauderdale the weekend of Jan. 24-26, produced by former Mr. Watering Hole Ed Sparan.

## Saturday, Dec. 14

In conjunction with its grand opening, the '97 Bare Chest Calendar men will be at Auto Erotica (4077A 18th St.), 1500-1800, selling and autographing the calendar. Profits go to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

The SF Leathernecks play party at the usual place and time will benefit Home Care Companions. You must be 18 or older to get in. Contact SF Leathernecks, P.O. Box 13152, SF, CA 94114-0152 for membership info and other details.

## Sunday, Dec. 15

At 1400 today, Collingwood Park will officially be renamed Rikki Streicher Field. Rikki was a leader in many areas of our community, including women's sports. Party after the ceremony at 1400 at the Elbo Room (17th and Valencia).

Golden Gate Guards MC beer bust at the SF Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8. The food furnished at this club's beer busts is usually referred to as "cul-sine"!

Pacific Bears LMC beer bust at Daddy's, but no info from them. The championship Murderers Row softball team beer bust at the Lone Star, 1600-2000. Again, no details furnished.

## Monday, Dec. 16

Lou Duff (The Rope Woman) presides over Hands on Rope 200 - fancy rope you can wear (i.e., corsets, harnesses and armbands). Bring your

own rope or buy it there! Call 550-0122 for cost, time and location.

## Tuesday, Dec. 17

Harvey Milk Institute lecture, "Sex Club Etiquette," 1900-2200, \$12. This talk should be mandatory for a lot of people. Boldly go where Ms. Manners would never even think of!

## Wednesday, Dec. 18

Leather Discussion Group meets upstairs at the Lone Star at 1930; the subject is "Spirituality of Leathersex." Will angels be watching overhead?

Daddy's Bar Xmas party begins at 2000 with prizes and surprises, including entertainment by Dowager Empress Donna (Curt) Sachet and former Emperor Brian Benamati, the nightingales of Castro Street.

Underwear Buddies play party at 933 Harrison. Doors open from 2000-2200. You can flash your "unmentionables" until everyone drops of exhaustion! No cologne!

## Thursday, Dec. 19

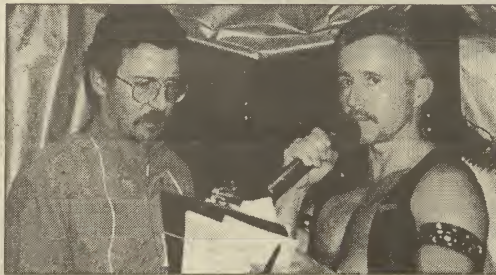
Xmas party at The Edge, "Sit on Santa," 2000-2300, with Danny Williams playing Santa! (I never thought I'd see that day!) Both good and bad boys and girls will be allowed to sit on Danny's face, er, uh, lap!

Constantines MC toy drive beer bust at Daddy's - \$4 with a non-stuffed toy; otherwise, it's \$6. Have your mug photographed with Santa for \$2 to benefit the AEF.

Free STD screening at Blow Buddies (933 Harrison, upstairs), 2000-2200, by Blow Buddies and City Clinic. Take advantage of this service! Xmas party at the SF-Eagle, 2000-2200, with their fab-as-usual buffet and all the cruising the season will allow! Hi, Leo! How's your CD?

pearances, charity or otherwise, is not true. It was a case of miscommunication: said title holder is also an erotic video star and his video producers thought the bar owner in Chicago wanted him in that capacity. No names are mentioned here to protect the guilty!

Lots of holiday parties are going on even as you read this and more are on the way! Just take it easy and be kind to tourists, natives, your ex and that queen you just can't stand! I don't want to have to write any obituaries in the coming weeks before New Year's Eve! ▼



Roger Luttrell and Randy Wright of the Alameda County Leather Corps MC'd the Santa Slave Auction in Hayward last Saturday, raising \$3000.

## Paradise found

by Sweet Lips

While you poor slobs are reading this piffle by the light of a cigarette machine in some corner dive, yours truly, Sweet Lips, Czarina de Turk Street and She Who Must Be Obeyed - plus my entourage of Chaz, Barton and Dick Deemer - will be sunning, swimming, strutting and seducing myself silly on the sandy shores of Puerto Valarta. Yes, by the time my visage next graces this fair metropolis, I'll be brown as a berry and fit as a fiddle - or maybe it's the other way around. In any case, suffer!

I want to thank my legions of fans and admirers for making my 74th birthday bash at the Polk Rendezvous such an astounding success. And to those of you who couldn't wade through the crush to wish me many happy returns of the day, just UPS your presents in care of the bar. I'm sending all of you a big Sweet Lips' smooch at this very moment! Special kudos to Dennis "Guano and Guacamole" Tyler for his scrumptious Mexican buffet and also to Joe Bear, who was resplendent in his "tux" behind the bar.

My heartfelt "gracias" to Steve Suss of Portland's Embers/Avenue

fame for spending yet another natal day with me. Remember my 50th at the \*P.S. with all the red food! Talk about the Red Sea the next morning!

The Ronnie Lyons rumors are true! His Fabulousness is now on the plank mornings at the PR. Welcome back to the Polkstrasse, darling. It's so nice to have you back where you belong!

Dolly Dale's mother, Agnes, was here for the holidays. What a fun, great-looking gal! Loved her.

Everyone thought she was Dolly's (younger) sister.

Thank you, Grant, for the wonderful afternoon. Who says I can't keep a secret?

Although it's been mentioned elsewhere, it certainly bears repeating that the Folsom Street Fair honchos distributed over \$95,000 to over 20 charities. Great work, leather men and women! You've done our community proud once again.

For those of you into beads, bangles and baubles, check out the Pre-Christmas Costume Jewelry Sale at Marlena's (Hayes and

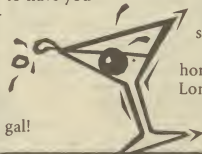
Octavia), Dec. 14 (7-10 p.m.) and Dec. 15 (4-6 p.m.). Bargains galore! Word on the street has it that a certain former Empress, now down on her luck, may be putting her tiara on the block. How the mighty have fallen, *mais oui*? My only jewels up for grabs are the family *bijoux*, and hopefully they'll receive a sympathetic appraisal south of the border.

Bears to men: The home of the hirsute, the Lone Star Saloon (1354 Harrison), is playing host to an art exhibit by the talented Jim Leff. Don't miss it! The Lone Star's

Christmas party on the 25th will feature a stupendous spread by Dennis "Poinsettias and Petit Fours" Tyler, and the bar will be decorated in a Southwestern style by Ed Martinez. Sounds hot!

The National AIDS Memorial Grove's next work day is Saturday, Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tours of the grove in Golden Gate Park are every Thursday morning. If you haven't been on one yet, do it now! For more information, call 415/750-8340.

Until next time, pass the cocoa butter! ▼



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a taste of leather

# x-mas sale

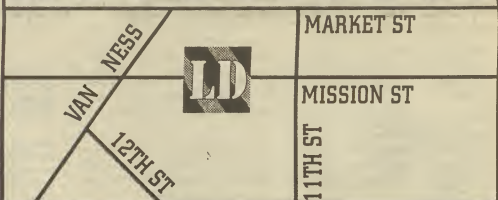
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## Out There

◀ page 39

wreath on her head and gave a little speech about how flacking for Absolut was paying for the new carpeting in her LA home. (Funny she didn't mention her upcoming star turn on Fox's tacky Christmas special, *Christmas with the Munsters*, in which Miss Pussy Pants plays Mrs. Munster.)

Swank types were everywhere the eye could see — **Manny Mange**, **Tara Twat**, demented cookbook scribe **Klaus**, and ever-present SF photographer **Dan Nicoletta**, who was accompanied by a delicious slab of meat on loan from Switzerland, whose name we didn't catch because we were too busy staring into his crotch.

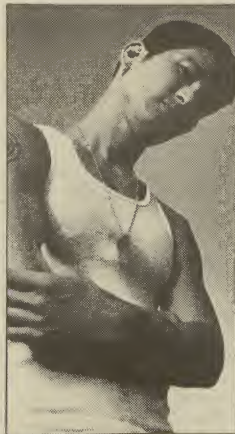
Writers/publishers **Thomas Avena** and **Adam Klein** were there, too, and apparently having a grand time. Klein, who is sporting an attractive new hairdo these days (our spy calls it a "neutral tint"), won the evening's po-

etry prize when, using the required magnetized refrigerator letters, he spelled out some sort of charming ode to Absolut.

Later in the weekend, at **Stafford and Jordy Jones' Club Confidential**, a Dutch television crew showed up to film the "underground scene" and interview scenesters. The TV people were enthralled by the evening's performers, **Veronika Klaus**, who was at her bewitching best, and the staggering **Miss Jade**, a death-cultish, leather-clad stripper famous for a strip routine involving flame-throwing and the expert use of a watering can. Gad-about photographers **Jim James** and **Dan Nicoletta** were spotted ogling the many luscious boys who have become part of the CC scene, as was the ineffable **Ruby Toosday**, who looked a lot like Sunday in all that elegant white.

### Queer at Sundance

**Jenni Olson** at PopcornQ reports that this year's Sundance Film Festival slate boasts an ad-



gregg araki

vance sneak at the festival's queer flicks (as well as a glimpse at upcoming highlights of the '97 SF Lesbian & Gay Film Festival). The

ten-day event runs January 16-26 in Park City, Utah.

Lavender highlights include: the world premieres of **gregg araki's** *Nowhere* (produced by **Andrea Sperling**) and **Joe Mantello's** long-awaited screen adaptation of **Terrence McNally's** *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (starring **Jason Alexander**). The American Spectrum section will present **Kiss Me Guido**, from first-time director **Tony Vitale** (produced by **Christine Vachon**), as well as **Tami Gold** and **Kelly Anderson's** *Out At Work*, plus, from **Deborah Hoffman**, a new documentary, *Blacks and Jews*.

Among the documentaries are two ITVS-funded projects: **Arthur Dong's** powerful *Licensed To Kill* is a revealing series of interviews with men convicted of homophobic murders; **Su Friedrich's** *Hide and Seek* tells a touching story of lesbian childhood through documentary, fictional, and archival footage.

The World Cinema section presents two new works from

longtime queer filmmakers **John Greyson** (*Urinal*, *Zero Patience*) and **Isaac Julien** (*Looking for Langston*, *Young Soul Rebels*). Greyson's acclaimed feature *Lilies* just walked away with four statuettes at last week's Genie Awards in Toronto; and Julien's latest documentary, *Black Skin, White Mask*, explores the life of theorist **Franz Fanon**.

For all the latest gay and lesbian film news, check out PopcornQ: The Ultimate Online Home for the Queer Moving Image, available on the Worldwide Web at <http://www.popcornq.com>, on America Online (Keyword: PopcornQ), or on the Microsoft Network (Go Word: PopcornQ).

### Down on her luck

Finally, we've just learned from a friend of ours that a local dragster, a queen of a certain vintage, shall we say, has just lost her pumps by investing everything she had in Odwalla Stock. Better luck next time, girl! ▼

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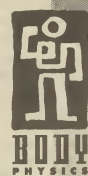
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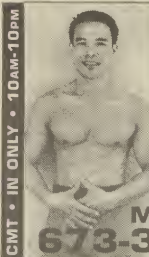
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East Bay guy offers fullbody erotic mas-  
sage, responds to your special needs.  
I'm warm, friendly, 6'1", 165 endowed.  
1 hr \$25 Jim (510) 527-2714Very cute, young, boyish, All-American  
blond/blue eyes/tanned/smooth body

## HOT SENSUAL MASSAGE

24 Hrs Ph. 905-4548 Mike \$80/Up

## NOB HILL MASSEUR

11 yrs experience available on short notice,  
\$40 in/\$50 out. Rich Mapel 931-7082

## ORIENTAL MASSAGE

Full Body by Young TK San Mateo to  
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## PALO ALTO

My hands -- Your Pleasure. Feel good  
for the holidays \$40 Billy 328-3210Erotic massage backwards and for-  
wards \$60/90min, "D" 415-255-1164


## MASSAGE YOURSELF

**LEARN YOGA**  
Fridays 6-7:30pm for beginners 1st  
class free, 66 1/2 Sanchez 563-3972


Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50  
Michael Quintan, CMT 861-4472

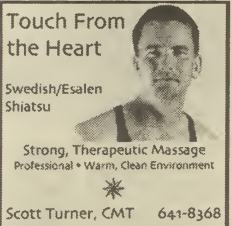


415-864-2430  
(nude-10pm)  
**STEPHEN F. PULLIS, L.M.T.**  
12 yrs. exp./Castro/in or out/gift cert.



**Full Body Swedish**  
Strong  
Young  
Built  
Blond  
\$50 Michael  
646-0777

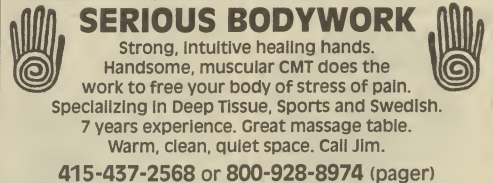
## COMPLETE RELEASE

CONCORD-WALNUT CREEK  
FULL BODY/FULL PLEASURE  
BY FRED OR BUTCHY  
90-MINUTES/\$35  
CALL: 510-682-5675


Touch From  
the Heart  
Swedish/Esalen  
Shiatsu  
Strong, Therapeutic Massage  
Professional • Warm, Clean Environment  
Scott Turner, CMT 641-8368

SENSUAL  
MASSAGE


**JEFF GIBSON, CMT**  
626-7095  
\$50  
"I've had hundreds of massages  
before and yours is the best-the  
best of the best!"  
Joe Marchal, Olympic athlete  
• Deep Tissue • Sportsmassage • Neuromuscular Therapy • Soft Tissue Release  
• Swedish • Cross Fiber • Trigger Point • PNF Stretches



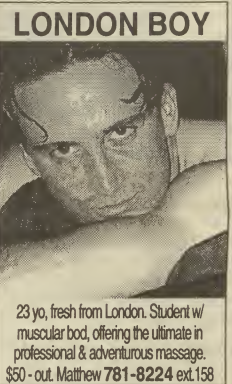
**SERIOUS BODYWORK**  
Strong, intuitive healing hands.  
Handsome, muscular CMT does the  
work to free your body of stress of pain.  
Specializing in Deep Tissue, Sports and Swedish.  
7 years experience. Great massage table.  
Warm, clean, quiet space. Call Jim.  
415-437-2568 or 800-928-8974 (pager)



**Full Body Swedish • Shiatsu**  
50 in • 70 out  
10am - 10pm  
560-1351  
Certified Massage Therapist



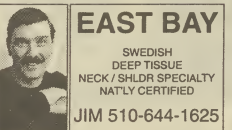
**Fantasy Massage**  
Deep Tissue Swedish  
Prostate Complete Relief  
Have Table; In/Out; Will Travel Bay  
Area; Nice Body/Blue Eyes  
All Ages Welcome  
Cortland • (415) 252-8001



**LONDON BOY**  
23 yo, fresh from London. Student w/  
muscular bod, offering the ultimate in  
professional & adventurous massage.  
\$50 - out. Matthew 781-8224 ext.158



**Feel Great!**  
Relax with an expert Swedish Esalen Massage  
**John, C.M.T.**  
386-0152, \$35/hr., \$45/1-1/2 hr  
Body Electric Graduate since 1986



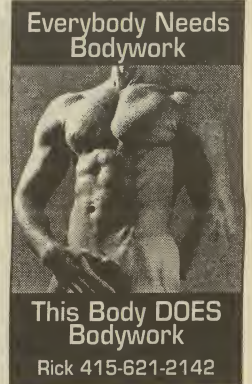
**EAST BAY**  
SWEDISH  
DEEP TISSUE  
NECK / SHLDR SPECIALTY  
NAT'LTY CERTIFIED  
JIM 510-644-1625



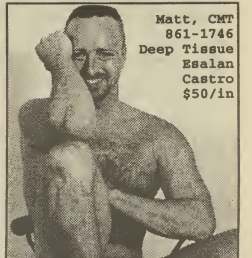
**Greg Carmean**  
connecting  
the erotic  
body &  
heart  
621-4930  
Castro studio



**PHYSICAL  
ATTRACTION**  
V-handsome Scandinavian Man,  
weight lifter, friendly, 8' cut  
blond/blue, 6', 210 lb.  
Especially like small  
Asian & Latin men.  
Erotic nude massage  
45 in 65 out **931-3263** RON 24 hrs



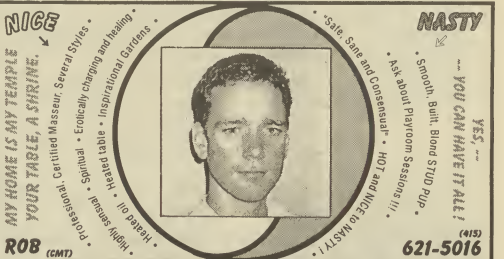
**Everybody Needs  
Bodywork**  
This Body DOES  
Bodywork  
Rick 415-621-2142



**Matt, CMT**  
861-1746  
Deep Tissue  
Esalen  
Castro  
\$50/in



**TOM**  
459-4217  
10am-11pm  
MARIN/SF



**NICE**  
MY HOME IS MY TEMPLE  
YOUR TABLE, A SHRINE.  
Certified Massage, Several Styles.  
• Locally charging and healing •  
• Spiritual • Inspirational • Gracious •  
• Heated table •  
• Highly sensual •  
• Professional •  
• Safe, Safe and Consistent •  
• Ask about Playroom Sessions!!! •  
• Smooth, built, blood STUP pipe •  
• HOT and NICE to MAST! •  
YES --  
-- YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL!  
(415)  
621-5016

## New holiday deadlines for the Bay Area Reporter Personals:

December 26 Xmas issue: Friday December 20th, 12 noon • January 2 New Years issue: Friday December 27, 12 noon



## MASSAGE



**James**  
MASSAGE THERAPY  
864-3753

**EAST BAY LAKE MERRITT**  
RELAXING • SENSUAL • HEALING  
A Superb Massage by a  
Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing,  
Certified Masseuse  
Jason Serinus  
510-444-4169



Healing touch  
from the heart  
**DURAN**  
764-9556  
Swedish/Esalen Massage  
w/Radiant Touch®  
Portero Hill • \$60/90 min.

**FULL BODY MASSAGE**  
HOT OIL SWEDISH  
REIKI HEALING  
ZEN SHIATSU  
CHUCK, cmt 824-2667



**BAY AREA REPORTER**

**Ahhh...**  
Therapeutic & erotic full body  
massage. Sliding scale  
fee. In/out calls, late nite OK  
673-3025, 303-0373pg

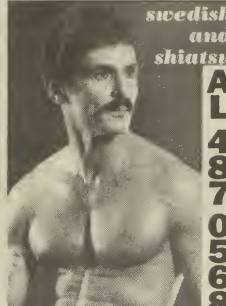


**San Mateo  
& SF Airport**  
Sensual bodywork by  
certified masseur.  
\$40 (outcalls extra).  
Joe 415-342-5035

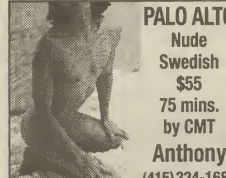
## ORTHOPEDIC MASSAGE



**JACK EIMAN**  
695-7808  
Deeply relaxing and very effective for stiff neck and shoulders, backpain, sporting injuries, computer stress, etc. I've had excellent training. Please call for detailed info. Thank you.



**swedish  
and  
shiatsu**  
**AL 487 0568**

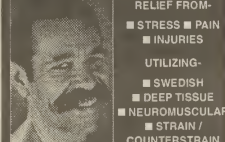


**PALO ALTO**  
Nude  
Swedish  
\$55  
75 mins.  
by CMT  
**Anthony**  
(415) 324-1686

**BODY WORK**  
415/252-9661  
**MATT FLYNN**  
CMT  
\$35/hour

**HANS**  
Wholesomely Handsome, 33, 6',  
195 lbs., great tan body, 1 1/2 hr.  
super massage in nude, Japan  
Center \$45/in \$60/Out 24 hours.  
**292-2373**

## THERAPEUTIC BODYWORK WITH RESULTS




RELIEF FROM:  
■ STRESS ■ PAIN  
■ INJURIES  
UTILIZING:  
■ SWEDISH  
■ DEEP TISSUE  
■ NEUROMUSCULAR  
■ STRAIN /  
COUNTERSTRAIN  
**STEVEN  
ARTHUR CMT 647-0644**

## New holiday deadlines for the Bay Area Reporter Personals:

December 26 Xmas issue: Friday December 20th, 12 noon • January 2 New Years issue: Friday December 27, 12 noon

**INTUITIVE  
BODY WORK**  
"Let me guide you  
on a journey of  
relaxation and  
healing"  
Convenient  
SOMA Location  
**Joey Faria  
C.M.T.**  
552-5828




**Indulge Yourself**  
Enjoy the nurturing magic of a soothing deep  
Swedish-Esalen massage in a warm and  
comfortable environment. Certified.  
Castro location. Gift Certificates Available.  
Sliding scale for people living with HIV.  
**Mark Carmody (415) 861-5441**

for more details  
<http://www.massagenet.com/vincent.shtml> **Vincent**  
**EROTIC  
m a s s a g e**  
415-621-3719  
Relaxing full-body  
massage by friendly  
attractive 27 C.M.T.  
offers strong intuitive,  
erotic touch.

**HEALING BODYWORK**  
ACCUPRESSURE  
DEEP TISSUE  
SWEDISH  
**DAN SPAETH C.M.T.**  
415-621-8582  
Appointments Available 10AM - 10PM  
Photo: Kent Taylor

**REAL MESSAGE**  
2 BLOCKS FROM CASTRO/MARKET  
Professional only (non-sexual) with styles to match your comfort level:  
Deep Tissue & Accupressure  
• No oil  
• Clothing removal optional  
Esalen Comprehensive  
• Uses oil  
• Minimal or no clothing  
Introductory Offer: \$30 for 1 hour; \$45 for \$90 minutes  
Gift Certificates Available  
Scheduling Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. daily  
For appointment, call John at 255-3049



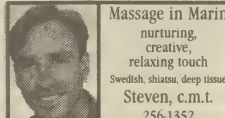
**HOT**  
Nude, Erotic & Swedish Messages  
No Nonsense Affair  
A Professional Man  
For Your Body and Head  
By A Handsome Man  
6'1", 210 lbs., Blond/Blu  
**Sam 885-6379**  
24 HRS.  
1st Timers Welcome



**STRONG  
DEEP MASSAGE  
CMT**  
**ROBERT**  
567-6015

**Great  
Full Body  
Massage**  
By Caring and  
Sensitive CMT  
Deep, Gentle  
\$50/1 hr.  
**Jeff**  
863-6420

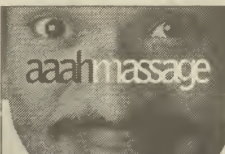
**STRONG  
BODYWORK**  
Tom Lombardo,  
CMT  
553-4073



Massage in Marin  
nurturing,  
creative,  
relaxing touch  
Swedish shiatsu, deep tissue  
**Steven, c.m.t.**  
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**DEEP MESSAGE**  
VOTED BEST OF DENVER  
My massage is truly the  
best. Strong hands. CMT.  
Relieve Stress & Pain  
Intro Offer \$30 M-Sat 9-8  
**BOB 255-1575**



**aaah massage**

**HEALING MASSAGE**  
Combined  
styles  
for  
total  
massage  
**Kelly**  
764-5581 SF: Out only

**HARDBODIED STALLION**  
Experience ultimate ecstasy under  
my strong hands and hard body. Sensual,  
erotic. Harry (510) 527-2714 E50  
Cute CMT gives sensual, healing rubs  
To men of all ages, races \$45 Out  
752-6334. Please leave message. E01

Older & Larger Men Welcome 773-9130 E50  
**SANTA ROSA HIDEAWAY**  
Firm, disciplined massage by mature  
masseuse in secluded country setting  
East side of Santa Rosa. Also, you're  
erotic fantasies explored and fulfilled.  
Send fantasies ahead by fax. Group  
sessions with prior screening. Roger  
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**MASSAGE PLUS**  
Full-body massage by Tall Texan.  
Attractive, Attentive, Affectionate  
6'6", 195#, blond, beard, athletic \$60/in  
**WAYNE • 252-7443** E50

**BEAR HANDS**  
Full body massage by hot, hairy,  
Masculine man. Everyone Welcome!  
Clark 764-9978 \$60 • Out • 24 Hrs. E50

VERY FRIENDLY, CARING  
**SOUTHERN  
REDHEAD**  
27, 6', 180#. Full body, deep  
Tissue, energy balancing. 7 yrs exp.

OUTCALLS/HOTELS  
CALL TRAVIS • 764-9154 E50

Warm, fuzzy, friendly, handsome  
Bear-6', 230, 45, tats, piercings--  
Nurtures you with erotic, relaxing  
touch. \$35. Buzz CMT, 863-2094 E52

Sensual nude mass. by 6' 190# sexy  
muscular hunk, very friendly, very  
playful. Great mass. \$40 • 387-9451 E50

**MARKUS GOES HAWAIIAN!**  
Markus aka The Big One & The  
Golden Bear has gone to Oahu's  
windward shore to open Rainbow  
Hale, a guest house and spa. See  
"Vacation Rentals" ad for info! E52

Erotic bodyrub \$30 1hr. 641-9058 E51

**Personal Touch**  
Therapeutic & Erotic  
Deep, Satisfying Massage  
Certified & Discreet  
Daniel 626-4192 Even/Wknds



**Healing  
Massages**  
**R.L. Bates**  
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**DEEP RELAXATION**  
Experienced, certified, quality body work  
at very nice price. 24 Hrs 487-7662 E50

**GREAT MESSAGE • HOT BODY**  
Great playtime. Great fun. 387-9451 E50  
Kory 773-9130 In/Out 24Hr Cash/MCV  
**SF HOTELS. NICE TOUCH** E50

**CALL THIS AD!**  
Excellent strong hands, long sessions  
by CMT in form of Swedish & Shiatsu,  
orthobionomy! "Best massage ever"  
my clients say! 24 Hrs Nathan 24 Hrs  
• 487-7662 E50

**TAOIST EROTIC MASSAGE**  
Two or four hands touch your body &  
soul. The Energy Body Center  
(Haight & Divisadero). Christopher  
Love, M.A., CMT & Kirk Prine,  
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**SPECIALIZING IN MEN**  
Strong • Nurturing • Sensual Touch by: Handsome • muscular • athletic man. Michael La  
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KIMO • 431-1930 E51

**HAYES VALLEY HEAVEN**  
Transport yourself into bliss with  
Sensual, Nurturing Touch.  
• Thomas CMT 863-5324 E50

Young Masseuse for Older  
New in US, 26, 6', 160, Athletic, ex-  
TV com'l model gives excl massage  
for mature men. \$60, Oakland  
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CMT Massage 775-4771 24Hrs E50

Berkeley Bodywork. Esalen or Sports  
Massage. Kent, CMT (510) 845-3036 E51


Fullbody massage given by handsome  
clean-cut grad student, 5'10", 155 Lbs,  
Br/Blu, smooth, lean, muscular body.  
Call Luke, CMT, 24 Hrs • 541-5002 E50

China-trained, cute, smooth friendly  
**CHINESE MASSAGE**  
Fullbody deep touch 24 hrs 303-4711 E51



## PERSONALS

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Vibrational Healing  
& Swedish Massage

**Jason  
CMT**

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\$45/hour

DEEP PLEASURE  
IS YOURS!

\* Hot tub  
\* Private garden  
\* Hot oil  
\* Sensual full body contact

\* Swedish & Shiatsu  
\* Masculine, handsome, friendly...  
\* Total ambience

For a truly relaxing experience  
**DOWNY 864-3777**

Berliner  
BRATWURST

Handsome 27, with a passionate touch for your unabashed pleasure.  
Br/br/ 5'9"/150#/8" uncult  
\$55/ hr. \$70/90 min.  
Skiing Scale for PWA

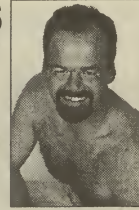


**Phillip  
487-1133**  
Happy Hour 11 to 5

THIS  
IS IT

LOVING  
HEALING  
EMBRACING

BUY 3  
GET 1  
FREE  
Certified



CALL ALAN  
510-805-2746

Best Hands in  
The City!

TOP Quality massage by  
handsome bodybuilder.

**6' 190lb STUD**

Swedish, Sensual, Deep Tissue, & Shiatsu


**431-0626**

TOTAL PENGUIN RELEASE! 7 DAYS/24 HOURS

## FULL BODY MASSAGE

BY  
Goodlooking, Friendly, Young,  
Discreet, South  
American  
Latin Male

RAY-415-863-4236  
415-519-4841




**PALO ALTO**  
Nude  
Swedish  
\$55  
75 mins.  
by CMT  
**Anthony**  
(415)813-1334

**TOM  
ADVENTURESOME**

Built tight, muscular and hung  
Blond man, 34, 6', 210 lbs.  
Very friendly guys over 30  
preferred. Sensual massage  
in the buff  
\$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.

**563-1302**



great big heart

Stuart Satterfield CMT  
415-864-0243  
for appointments or information

75 MIN  
SESSION  
FOR \$40




**Jim**  
Masculine  
Touch  
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LOVING  
STROKES

Nurturing, Sensual  
Healing, Satisfying

**STRONG HANDS**  
SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED  
From Stress Reduction to  
Simple Relaxation

**STEVE C.M.T.**  
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**NOB HILL  
MASSEUR**

Available  
on short notice  
10am-10pm  
in/out, 40/50  
Expert  
trained &  
thorough

**RICH**  
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**HEALING HANDS**

Full-Body  
Deep Tissue  
Swedish  
Massage

10 am to  
Midnight  
In/Out



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**TOUCH OF  
HARMONY**

Swedish  
Deep Tissue  
Sports  
Shiatsu  
Accupressure

Evenings and  
weekends only  
In and Out



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Jeff CMT



**PAUL** 522-1821  
9 AM - 9 PM

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For soothing, relaxing touch Call  
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30 y/o blond./In-Out-East Bay OK.  
**I KNOW WHAT MEN LIKE!**  
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A Full-Body Massage by a Good  
Looking Asian guy.  
Discreet 415-567-5053

Fantastic massage by an Old Pro,  
17th/Dolores \$35 Roy • 626-6090

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\$30/Hr-\$45 1 1/2 Hr. In/Out  
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Hot Massage by Lean Boy  
Call Ishmael (415) 252-8018  
Come for the Touch;  
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Sacred touch, Sacred Time  
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Loads of Relief! 715-6410 Brad.  
Enjoy His Hands all Over You! 24 Hr.

\$30 Massage! • Bill • 441-1054 • HOT!!

**BLACK MUSCLE  
NUDE HOT OIL MASSAGE**  
Hard, muscular body; \$40/In, \$60/Out  
(415) 207-9350  
Total Release & Relaxation

Any Race Size Age 18+ Kory 773-9130

Erotic Bodywork by handsome, caring,  
athletic, intelligent, sincere male, full-  
body, deep-tissue with release. \$50/75  
min. 8AM-8PM. 437-2688 • Davis

Two New  
SEXUAL HEALERS

In Town (Haight & Divisadero) doing tra-  
ditional and non-traditional massage  
and bodywork. Energy Body Center  
Christopher Love, MA CMT & Kirk  
Prine, EdD, CMT Appt/Info: 552-7417

EAST BAY BLOND  
MASSEUR!

Full-body erotic massage by blond,  
muscular sufer in the nude! Come  
and relax! Sean • (510) 639-7086

90 min for \$40! Swedish massage by  
Goodlooking CMT. Quality assured.  
Thurs thru Sun. Jeff • 922-4962

## A-1 MASSG 24HRS

\$40 CMT, Call (415) 775-4771 • 24 Hrs

Firm Massage, Great touch by Brad  
Lean, Sensual, str-lkg guy • 715-6410

Sensational Asian full-body massage;  
friendly, goodlooking athletic body;  
You won't be sorry. 406-9205

Excellent Swedish/Erotic Handsome  
26, great body. Pgr: 224-0381

Great deep Swedish, Shiatsu, Reiki  
**\$35 FIRST SESSION**  
Non Sex, Pro. Noe Valley, Ed 647-4388

Feel Like Butter! 773-9130 Kory.  
The Essential Luxury You Deserve!

41, 5'10", 170, Bearded, Hair  
Masculine, Offbeat, Down-to-Earth  
pro offers Nurturing, Heartfelt Mas-  
sage and Sensual, Erotic  
Touch • 764-6319 • Tom

• MID-PENINSULA •  
7+ yrs, CMT, Full tension release,  
In/Out, Days/Eves Tom • (415) 345-7318

**GORGEOUS ISRAELI**  
Exquisite massage by a Certified Mas-  
sage Therapist. 207-6025 • Jonathan

Excellent, professional, true deep-tis-  
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very handsome man. Alan 708-6052

## MAGIC MALE MASSAGE

In Marin. Call Doug 457-7507 In or Out

Relax Release Enjoy a Sensual Swedish  
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Warm Friendly Healing Sincere Clean  
Discreet Caring Bliss • 773-9130 • Kory

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Hot, sensual rub by ripped muscular  
expert. Big hairy chest, cut abs,  
strong hands Dirk • 861-1671

**NUDE MASSAGE CUTE GUY**  
5'5 135# smooth nice chest & arms older  
men welcome \$40 Donald • 351-2034

**X-TRA HANDSOME**  
Jewish/Italian 34, 6'2", 180, hairy  
chest, shldr lngth hair  
Page Steve 1 (888) 361-4830

**MAGIC ASIAN HANDS**  
Young, cute & personal. Hung's Back!  
From head to toe for \$60/605-0266

**SWIMMER'S TOUCH**  
Relaxing, full-body massage by strong,  
smooth 26 yr old. Strong, caring  
hands, offer intuitive, erotic touch.

\$40/1 hr. \$50/1 1/2 hrs. Out calls  
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Only One Question...

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Castro, Certified, \$40  
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SF Hotels: Discreet Friendly 24 Hr Mar's  
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\$60 Jim 267-1817

Cute, Smooth, Tender  
**26 Y/O ASIAN**  
In \$50 Out \$60  
**DAVE • 749-0488**

Best Stress Relief 773-9130 by Kory.  
Awesome 24 Hr. Van Ness. Indulge

**SONOMA COUNTY**  
Strong One Hour \$35  
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Med Student • 543-0822

Handsome, Friendly WM, 32, Built  
(5'10", 175#), Great Hands Gives  
Full-Body, Swedish Massage. \$45  
In/Out. SF/Marin Days/Eves. Mike,  
CMT 388-4583

Friendly, Reliable Complete Massage  
**SF HOTELS GUESTS**  
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Erotic Full-Body Massage  
**RUSSIAN RIVER**  
By sexy, well-built Stud  
\$40 In/Out (707) 865-2093 Bob

## HOTELS 24-HOURS

CMT Call: (415) 775-4771 24 Hours

Full Body Relief-I/O 715-6410 Brad  
Nr Wharf Marina Russian Nob Polk

## VERY HANDSOME JEWISH

Full-body sensual massage. Strong hands  
& gentle. Very friendly • 245-1352

## DON'T FORGET!

Christmas and  
New Years are  
almost here!  
Please note the  
Bay Area Reporter's  
new holiday  
deadlines for all  
Classified and  
Personal ads:

December 26 Xmas issue:  
Friday December 20th, 12 noon  
January 2 New Years issue:  
Friday December 27, 12 noon

JAMES LARUE

C.M.T.

415.861.8542

BY APPOINTMENT

1 HOUR \$40

1.5 HOURS \$55

Wellbeing for your  
INTACT body\*

\* Not circumcised / Restoring



Whole bodies deserve massage  
90mins \$60 call 9am to 7pm

**T.J. 415 826 5972**



MIKE  
ULTIMATE SENSUAL MASSAGE

641-0780



## PEOPLE

**MAN TALK** Exclusive One-on-One Connections With Studs!  
**011-592-1145**  
**CALL NOW!**  
**1-268-404-4449** LIVE ACTION  
Int'l Toll Applies. Check with your carrier for exact rates.

**LIVE HARD SEX!** FOR GUYS WHO LIKE TO FUCK!  
 IT'S HERE!  
 For the first time in the USA!  
**011-592-595-670**  
 18+ Int'l LD Applies

## New holiday deadlines for the Bay Area Reporter Personals:

December 26 Xmas issue:  
**Friday December 20th, 12 noon**

January 2 New Years issue:  
**Friday December 27, 12 noon**

**You can leave your hat on.**

**San Francisco**  
**415-247-2000**

**San Jose**  
**408-532-3000**

**Stockton/Modesto**  
**209-473-5959**

**Oakland**  
**510-814-6699**

**Santa Rosa**  
**707-522-5002**

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**USE ACCESS CODE 4104**

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Just \$1.98/\$2.49 per minute for certain optional features. Internet: <http://www.movo.com>  
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**HOOK UP WITH ASIAN MEN AND THEIR ADMIRERS** on the Confidential Connection®  
 FREE to Record, Listen & Respond to Ads!  
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**1997 The Year For**  
**Crimson and John**

For Further Information On Crimson And John's Charitable Events...  
**263-0353**

### PENIS-NIPPLE

Enlargement. Custom vacuum pumps, surgical. Gain 1-3". Permanent. Safe. Enhance erection. Free brochures. Dr. Joel Kaplan (312) 409-1950 E01

Butt bottoms wanted, experienced in plugs, toys and hands. 752-0971 E24-97

WM, gym bod, 5'11", 8" nds WM w/big ck, hairy butt 776-7472 E03

Daddy will train trim Lad in the art of Obedience Thru Bondage and Discipline 928-7457 • Tom E50

### RIMMING VIDEOS

50: Hot ass-eating tapes for guys in to rimming. SASE to T&T, POB 536-B, La Jolla, CA 92038-0536 E02

**(209) & (916)**  
**STOCKTON/MODESTO & SACRAMENTO**  
 Meet Hot & Horny Local Guys!  
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 the most successful all male escort service in the Bay Area is seeking quality people to provide services to a regular, established clientele. we offer a professional supportive work environment with attractive compensation. Positions available in the SF Bay Area, Los Angeles and other locations. Call 800-666-6933  
<http://www.boys2men.com>

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- Live Talk
- Meet Ads
- Voice Mail

**24 Hours**  
**\$2.00**  
**976-7500**

**Free**  
 (415)  
**981-8123**

**FREE**  
**415.929.5355**  
 LIVE!!! NO GIMMICKS

**THE SLING**  
 Fisting Parties  
 Call Info Line for More Details  
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**(707) MEET HOT MEN IN THE NORTH BAY**  
 Record, Listen & Respond to Ads FREE 18+ use free code 7004  
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**FOOT FRIENDS**  
 REGULAR PARTIES FOR GUYS INTO FEET, BOOTS & ALL RELATED SCENES IN SF, LA & NYC...  
 Email: [info@netcom.com](mailto:info@netcom.com)  
 For more info call (415) 431-0730

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 Matching! Meeting! Messaging!  
 Try It FREE! Use Code 4185  
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Finally...  
 A Gay & Lesbian Comedy Traffic School includes 4 tickets to Punchline Comedy Club serving our community statewide locations for 10 years 1(800) GAY-4-YOU

**EAST BAY ACTION!!**  
 Record & Listen to ads FREE!  
**510-814-6688**  
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**GAY ORGY**  
 Listen or Join in  
**1-900-745-2387**  
 \$2/Min. • 18+

**Talk Is Cheap!**

**3 Days For Only \$5**  
 You'll receive a passcode good for 3 full days of use. Updated bulletin board, live 1-On-1 connections and more...  
**1-900-505-0844**

David Christian Browne

### J/O Parties Now 4 Times a Week

If you like to get hard, show off and watch or play with other guys who like the same, these parties are for you. Comfortable and laid-back, you can play with others or watch 3 different continuous video screens showing both recent-release and J/O specialty videos. In addition to video-room spaces, adjoining huge warehouse area open for these parties only! Cool lighting, seating, play spaces  
**New heated J/O area**

Parties 8pm-12M Tue, Wed, Fri & Sun  
 Wed. nites J/O Exclusively (no oral sex)

Must check street clothes Tue & Fri (underwear, leather, fetishwear OK). Clothes check available Wednesdays and Sundays too. Adm \$8  
**Circle J Club 369 Ellis SF**  
**415-474-6995 Metro: Powell**

### 'Tom's Body Trim'

Beard, Crotch & Butt Shave  
 Cathedral Hill Location  
**922-8992**  
 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.

### Man To Man

Record, Listen, Respond to Ads Free!  
**(415) 247-2000 (408) 532-3003**  
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### CURIOS & CANDLES

A COMPLETE VARIETY OF SPIRITUAL AND OCCULT MATERIAL  
 Tarot Readings

289 Divisadero M-Sat 12-7  
 San Francisco Fri 12-7  
**863-5669** Sun 1-5

### LOOKING FOR SOME HOT STUFF

Gay & Lesbian Record, Listen & Respond in Your Area  
**CALL**  
**1-900-370-0757**  
 \$1.98 per minute. Must Be 18+

### LEATHER BUDDIES

A PRIVATE CLUB  
**979-0242**

**GOLDEN SHOWER BUDDIES**  
 2nd Wednesday Each Month  
**512-PISS**

**(408)**  
**SAN JOSE GUYS ARE HOT!!**  
 Record, Listen & Respond to Ads FREE!  
 18+ try it free use code 4143  
**(408) 532-3000**



## PERSONALS

## PEOPLE

**HOT GANG BANG**

SWEATY BATH HOUSE J/O ORGY

CALL AND GET YOUR ROCKS OFF

PHONE SEX FOR THE GAY 90'S

**1-900-745-3306**MORE ACTION AT 1-900-745-2845  
XXX-PLICIT GAY SEX 1-800-714-4865  
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LOCKER ROOM GROUP GROPE

JOIN IN OR JUST EAVESDROP

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SI-3.99/MIN • APE SAN RAFAEL CA • 18+ YRS



ENTER THE

**GAY GALAXY!**Call Me For A  
One-on-One  
Out of This World  
Experience!AS LOW AS  
**60¢**  
PER MIN.**1-809-490-8262****1-809-490-8144**

NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED! NO CALLER REFUSED! NO ONE UNDER 18!

Visit the electronic magazine & meeting place in Cyberpace!  
<http://www.manzone.com>

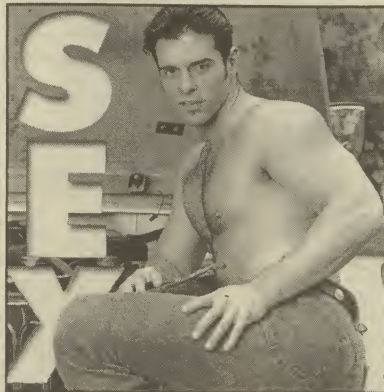
Int'l Toll Applies

YOU MUST BE 18  
TO ACCESS THESE  
ADULT SERVICES**HOT  
JOCKS****MUSCLE STUDS**  
**011-592-1146****1-809-490-8045**

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All New Unsensored Gay Action!CHEAP  
AS LOW AS  
**60¢**  
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Since Bar 1st Int'l Toll Applies

**HOT  
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1-900-PURE-SEX****EXPLOSIVE  
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I-GET-  
HIM****1-900-ERUPTION**  
\$2.99 Per 3 7 8 - 7 8 4 6  
[www.eruption.com](http://www.eruption.com)**Want it?  
Get it!**

Meet hot local men by phone!

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Listen to ads  
Respond to ads **FREE!** code **4222****(415) 452-3700**

18+ Restrictions apply. Opt. features \$1.99/\$2.49 per min. 888-604-4287

**\$2.00 FOR 24 HOURS**

- ONE ON ONE
- BULLETIN BOARD
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- MASSEUR ADS
- 50 INCOMING LINES

RECORD A  
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ANYTIME!  
(415) 403-7422**4 1 5 976-MUSCLE 6 8 7 2**

ONLY \$2.00 PER CALL (GOOD FOR 24 HOURS OF CALLING)

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Adults Only. Must be 18 or older. Prices subject to change without notice.**Reach For It!****ONE-ON-ONE  
ORGY**

PRIVATE VOICE MAIL

INSTANTLY UPDATED  
BULLETIN BOARD**10¢ PER MINUTE  
OR LESS****VISA/MASTERCARD  
CHECKS BY PHONE**

The Connector, Inc.

**Call (415) 281-3136**

The Connector, Inc. • 584 Castro #540, SF, CA 94114

Photo © Jim Wigler



## PEOPLE

# XXX MALE PARTY LINE 1-268-404-7418 18+ Only Int'l LD TOLL

THIK Manneat HARD 4 Lear, TITE  
Jock! OPEN Yr hairy pils & hot boy-hole!  
24 Hrs 643-9234 or 510-548-0842

Dad Dominates TT & Spank 665-4825

## LOST & FOUND LOVES

Conari Press is seeking true stories  
about reunions between lost loves.  
Please share your story with us: 1-  
800-685-9595 ex 7183 by Dec. 31

## HAVE RAZOR WILL TRAVEL

Crotch Butt Body Shaves  
RON\* (415) 821-6395 \* Out \$30

## FREE ORAL SERVICE

24 GWM black hair, blue eyes, 5'8"  
130 lbs., moderately hairy, very versa-  
tile bottom, seeks all young mas-  
culine cut/uncut Latinos/Blacks, 18-  
30 to service. Call Chuck 806-4209

## FREE RENT FOR WORK

Share 1BR with gay male. Free rent  
for young man 18+ who can do light  
cleaning for approx 1 hr daily. Call  
(415) 280-5957 for info; leave #.

## ADAM INMAN

Please call Big Doris • 863-2192

## BEAR HUNTER

Hot bears for work in all-male XXX  
videos. Send pictures & bio to: Lens  
Plus Prod., 7985 S. Monica Blvd, Suite  
183, West Hollywood, CA 90046

## POLITICALLY CORRECT DATELINE!

Straight, Gay, Lesbian -  
Your choice! Call Now!  
Call 1-900-860-7444, ext 496.  
\$2.95/min 18+ Tzone req'd.  
Avalon Comm 305-525-0800

Hot, hung H.S. & frat boy studs-dirty  
talking hot daddy is waiting for U to  
call & really let loose a juicy load.  
1- (408) 729-7325 after 7PM

## BUTTPLAY

Anal ecstasy by fingers & toys. Ex-  
hibitionism? Voyeurism? Network-  
ing? Friendship. Me: 6' 175 74. You:  
young (24-45) & slender.  
(415) 334-3737. Pager: 207-4029

Free Rent in Hayes Valley for  
Cuddler. Prefer butch trade.  
626-2681. GARY

Handsome Masculine Italian  
10" + seeks another HIV neg  
9" + for oral sex. • 776-6204

CONGRATULATIONS TO GARY  
VIRGINIA, MR. SF LEATHER  
and thanks for a flawless Holiday  
Leather Brunch, Sun, Dec. 8 at Har-  
vey's, in the "Disastro."

Total tongue massage by hungry bear. Prefer  
smooth GWM 18-25. 885-3187 • Safe!

Rim-chair svc fantasies to young,  
butch whitebutts by very hndms hung  
guy serious to meat only. 821-3425

Butch White Males 18-24 If you want to  
have fun do Call WM, MR. L•885-0066

## NEED A J/O BUDDY?

"Best Buddies" the biggest J/O club  
in Calif. has lots of San Fr. & Bay  
Area men 2 get off with. Write: B.B.,  
Box 194, L.A., CA 90078

## MR. SF LEATHER 1997 COMING IN APRIL!!

Great Head by older guy-in/out/anytime.  
826-6858. Prefer younger men 18-28

Good Head Sonoma County  
Call Days (707) 823-3895

Bare-Assed Spanking  
Experienced/Safe 647-0984

Slim, 18-20? I'm 55. 585-4335

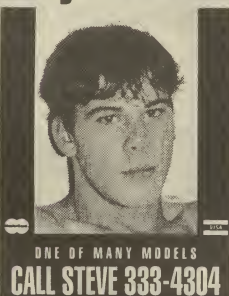
Spank you, boy\* (510) 654-1122

## MODELS/ESCORTS

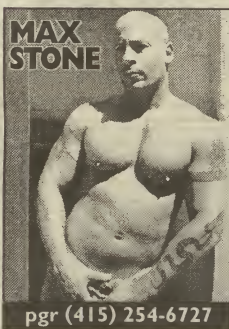


**Cody White**  
SUPER STAR  
415 739 0427  
in out overnight  
in brown & blue  
5-10 165L

## OCEAN ESCORTS 18 yo Models



ONE OF MANY MODELS  
CALL STEVE 333-4304



**MAX STONE**  
pgr (415) 254-6727

## TOP DOG

5'10", 175#, of hard defined muscle  
Masculine & Goodlooking  
Pgr 207-6786

## Need Instant Serv. Top Bot No Hurry HOTEL HIGHRISE

24 hrs Discreet, well dressed, Swede  
Pg 245-6069 Ph 923-9191 In/Out \$60

## MUSCLE TOP

Hot Bodybuilder, 6'2", 200 lb, 28yo  
Well Hung, 17" A, 46"C, 32"W, Very  
Goodlooking (408) 788-7508 Christian

East Bay Oral Expert For Your  
Pleasure 27yo Stud (415) 789-8552

## TRUCKDRIVER

BIG DUCK 776-8481  
Well Hung Black Top 273-1814

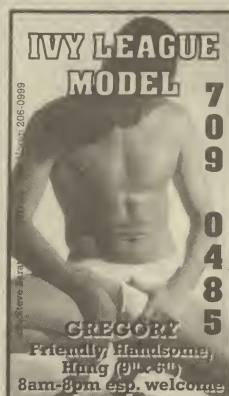
## TROPICAL XTC!!!

Hot Latin Top, 26 y/o  
Extra Handsome, 155#, 30"W, 5'7"  
Juan Out (415) 527-6096

## LEATHER/SM/FANTASIES

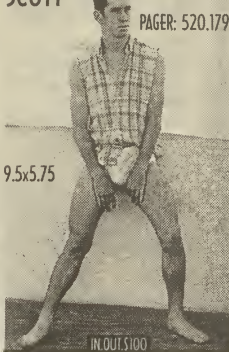
Tough dominant top, 38yo, 6'1", 210#,  
7" uncut, blue eyes, flat top, mustache.  
Into leather, SM, bondage, WS, CBT,  
fantasy, beginner-heavy. Have equipment  
Scott (415) 790-0902. In or Out calls

24/7, In \$60/Out \$80, T/B, Kinky  
HANDSOME REDHEAD  
Vrstl, 7" cut, 5'7", 130 929-1803

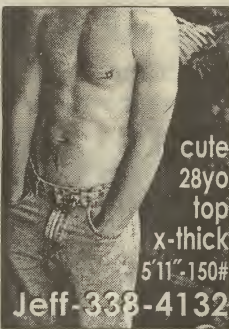


**IVY LEAGUE  
MODEL**  
7090485  
GREGORY  
Friendly, Handsome,  
Hung (5'10 6'11)  
8am-8pm esp. welcome

## SCOTT



PAGER: 520.1799  
9.5x5.75  
IN. OUT. \$100



cute  
28yo  
top  
x-thick  
5'11" 150#  
Jeff-338-4132

Smooth, Defined  
5'10", 155 lb, Blk Hair, Blue Eyes,  
Bubble butt, Handsome, Hung  
For Serious Men Who Require  
Discrete Service \$100 In  
Marsh (510) 839-0301 Dwn East Bay loc

## SAN JOSE MUSCLE BOTTOM

From So. America. Sweet, Smooth,  
Sexy, Cute, Exotic (408) 421-7163

## 23yo, 5'8", 145#, 29w, 39c, smooth, cute

**ASIAN GO-GO BOY**  
Strip Show/True Fantasies, All Bay  
Hru p(415) 313-9537, \$100 Out, Top

Do you like 3 ways? For Older, Ynger  
**THREES COMP \$60**  
Both yng, discreet, handsome, In/Out  
24 Hrs Never rushed Jef Stu 923-9191

My Muscle Butt Your Face 626-RIDE

## HOT LUNCH SPECIAL

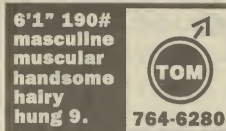
• Handsome Top \$50 1/2 Hour\*  
6'2", 175, 33 • 626-2669

Norwegian Am 24 Hr, 6'3", 28 yr  
Top Out Only 227-9079 Let's See

24hr 30yr, 6'2", Top Awfully Hot  
Awfully Good Out 605-6844

Fresh Fun Friendly

**NEW BOY IN TOWN**  
20 yr old is ready to play  
Sebastian 440-3983

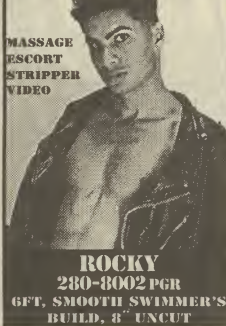


6'1" 190#  
masculine  
muscular  
handsome  
hairy  
hung 9.  
TOM  
764-6280



**TRASHY  
TOP MAN**  
Randy  
punk type  
tattoos,  
piercings  
LEATHER  
hung low  
thick  
& HARD  
in/out  
anytime  
most scenes  
Randy  
415.582.9395

## PLAYGUY MODEL FEB. 1996



MESSAGE  
ESCORT  
STRIPPER  
VIDEO  
ROCKY  
280-8002 PGR  
6FT, SMOOTH SWIMMER'S  
BUILD, 4" UNCUT

## WHAT

Do you want to eat? Private meals by  
Rimming porn star. 36yo, top, hot  
Bubble butt. Bryan 560-9478

## TORSO, ADVOCATE PLAYGIRL MODEL MICHAELS ESCORT (408) 559-3617

Full Body Erotic Rub w/Tonsil mass  
**DEEP STROKING!!**  
Castro loc. 28yo Sexy! \$70 487-0278

## KISSABLE SEXY

Cute, cuddle boy, Smooth tight body,  
Great butt. Nice toy. You'll enjoy.  
Troy Pr 679-1058

## ORIENTAL MASSAGE

Asian youth handsome for you clean  
cut, ecstasy. 100% satisfaction great  
deep. In/Out Fremont, South Bay,  
Hayward (510) 796-2723, page  
(510) 218-5760 Call Bryan

Built Blond Smooth Uninhibited Stud

## MANLY BOY LOVE

5'8", 160, 8" Big Nuts, Boy in Manbody  
Heartful Play Truly Verst! 313-6072

Come Where It's Hot

## LATIN FEVER

Rico 764-7959

## CUTE AS HEAVEN

**HOT AS HELL!**  
Young (22) & Hung (9X6)  
Oral Paradise!  
Bruce • 764-7248 • Out only

Hot Tattooed Pierced Cigar Smoking

## SKINHEAD SADIST

25 yr old experienced Master does  
S/M Bondage, humiliation, flogging &  
Boot worship. Most scenes Out only  
Eric 719-4948 pgr, Call now slave!!

Fun, Wild, Shaved Head, Tattooed,  
Punk boy. At your disposal!!! Tall,  
21 yrs. old. No Earlybirds!!!  
Call Alex 474-6786

Young Cute Sexy Smart Paul 253-8600  
**HOT SWEET SMOOTH BOY**



Sensual Msg. Escort  
Body/Foot Worship  
Discount for 2 Clients  
**346-7975 Kevin**  
Asian Dream



**DREAM MAKER**  
HANDSOME BLACK HOMEBODY 28 DEEP  
RICH CHOCOLATE COLOR AND BUTT. AVAIL-  
ABLE TO SERIOUS TOPS WHO WISH TO IN-  
DULGE THEIR INTENSE CRAVINGS FOR  
DARK CHOCOLATE. \$100 IN/OUT PAGE  
OR LV. MSG. DERRICK (415) 313-7127

## SEXY TEEN BOY

19yo, 145#, Latino, Very Cute, Very  
Young, The Face of an Angel and a  
Body to Die for! Pg 679-3451 Out Only

## REAL MAN

Tired of kids? Move up to a well  
Hung, handsome, muscular stud who  
Knows how. Pgr 207-6786

German Boytoy, 23, Here til' 12/18  
Cute, Fun, 8 inches. Nickalaus 474-6786

Massage N Play with Handsome Mus-  
cular 8 1/2 Italian Top to Bottom. Have  
your cak N eat me too. Tony 487-1959

## 6'3" 220# FIREMAN

27yo masc, muscular & xtra handsome  
No disappointments. Outcalls 679-3168

## KINKY BOYTOY

Sexy, Smooth Boy Loves to  
Please, Tight Athletic Body 5'7",  
135 lbs, 24 yr pr 679-1058

European Sexy Swimmer Top Boy  
(18) 5'6", 135 lbs. Uncut, bl hair,  
Blue eyes Loves to dominate and be  
Served Call D. at Pgr # 739-8488

Meet your fantasy of servicing that  
young boy you see walking home  
from school. More boys are available  
upon request. All slim bodys 4 you.  
**18 YO OUT PGR SEX-TITT**

## BUFFED HUNK

JEFF 997-7307

## 23YO TIGHTBUILD HUNG TOP

**HOT COLLEGE BOY**  
Cleancut, cute, no games, no bullshit  
In/Out Ron Hm 752-3844 Pgr 741-5329

## BLOND HOT & SEXY

**22 Y/O COLLEGE BOY**  
In/Out David 668-9053 376-3300 Pgr

## HOT LITTLE STUD

5'2", 112#, 26, Strong & Smooth  
Long Blonde, Hot Butt, Tiny Hands!  
Mikey Out only Pgr/VM 280-8049

28yo, 6'1", 185#, Hung 9X6 Smooth

## HIPPIE STUD!

Long Hair w/Great Attitude  
PAGE SAMSON • 560-8238

Cute Beau/Blond/Blue Smooth/Tall/Slim

## SEXY ARTIST BOY

Swell chats • Zen Backrub • Sexy Fantasy  
Sensual & Smart 4 Gents Paul 253-8600

Please Call (415) 449-8378

## PACIFIC ESCORTS

**HOT HAWAIIAN FILIPINO**

27, Smooth & Muscular for Striptease  
or Massage Alan (415) 626-7410

Dangerous Good Looks Buff Kickboxer

**DAMIAN 449-8354 OUT**

## HOT TEEN STUD

Gorgeous 18 yo. Blond/Blue  
Lean, Smooth, Well-Hung  
80-100 Byron Pgr 245-4325

19 y/o Boy Toy 10 1/2 X 7

Call Call Call 313-7702

## Holiday deadlines for the Personals:

Dec. 26 issue: Friday Dec. 20, 12 noon • Jan. 2 issue: Friday Dec. 27, 12 noon



## PERSONALS

## MODELS/ESCORTS

## S/M SENSUALITY

—long, & slow—my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned  
master into all aspects &  
degrees of leatherplay.  
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.  
Lord 431-0959

## HOT HOT TIMES



5'7"  
140#  
24hrs

253-9984 pager

## VIETNAMESE 19

Goodlooking Call Lon 788-0380

## SOUTHERN BEAR CUB

Goodlooking, Hairy, Farmboy 6'1",  
190, Uncut Jonathan 560-5754

Hot Latino, 35 Y/O

## FISTING TOP

Small Experienced Hands  
In/Out • Page Bruno 807-3684

## PLEASURE GUARANTEED

GHM 5'6", 130#, blk/br, smooth, Boy-  
ish, cute, outcall pg Tony (415) 978-8779

I Piss Like a Race Horse...Big Load

## BLOND WATER BOY

5'8" Buff Marine Cut 8" Fat Low Nuts  
Scent Markin' Gut Guzzlin' 313-6072

## HOT SEXY STUD

"10X6" 256-7627

## MASSAGE PLUS

Full-body massage by Tall Texan.  
Attractive, Attentive, Affectionate  
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Versatile Hot Boy, 29  
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Great Looking, Slender, Affectionate,  
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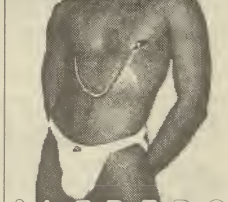
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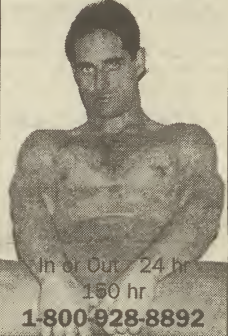
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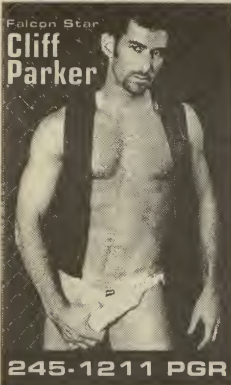
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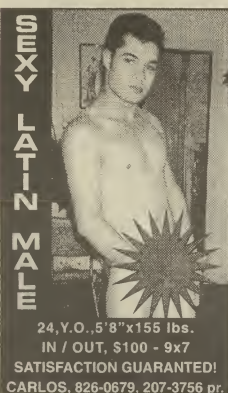
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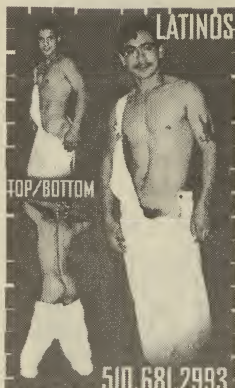
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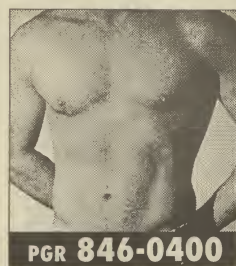
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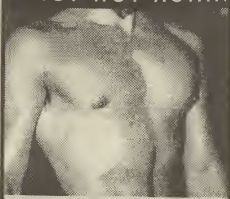
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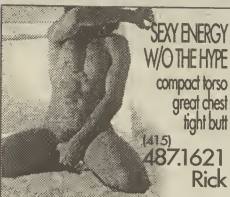
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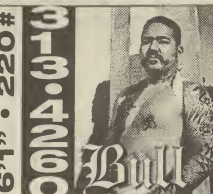
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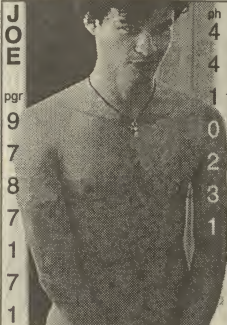
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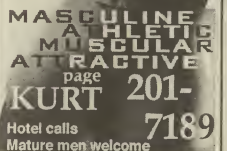
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6ft  
175#  
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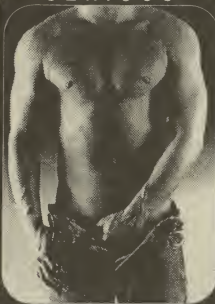


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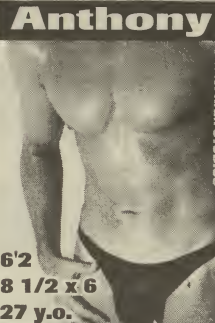


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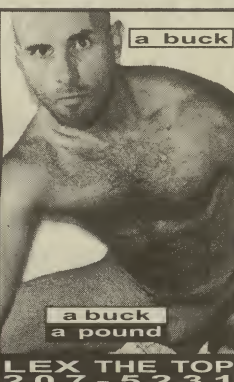
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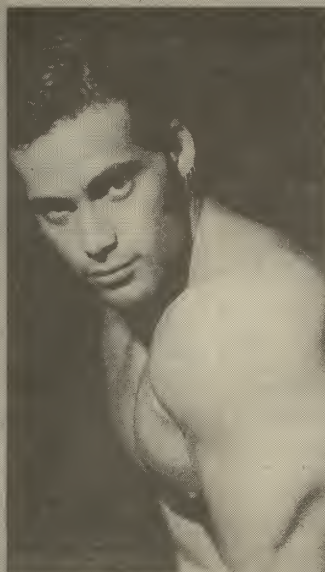


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